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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 1 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JULY 3, 1944 TEN CENTS

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JUL 5 1967

WB Raising '45 Total Above Its 19 for '44

Backlog of 22, Others In Work by September

HOLLYWOOD, July 2. — Possibility of an increase in the number of Warner releases for next season, bringing the total above the current year's final figure of 19, is seen following a week's conference here between Jack L. Warner, executive producer; Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, and Charles Einfeld, director of advertising-publicity.

The Warner studio at present is working a full year ahead of the company's release schedule. It will have 22 features completed and about half-a-dozen others before the cameras—considerably more than the 1943-44 release quota—when the new season starts in September. As a result, some boost in the size of next year's

(Continued on page 4)

Radio Boosts Bond Sales in Theatres

All four major networks — NBC, CBS, WJZ and WOR—today and tomorrow will broadcast a special announcement for the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department calling attention to the fact that while other War Bond issuing agents will be closed over the holiday, theatres will be open for the sale of War Bonds and asking the public to buy Bonds at theatres. All allocated Treasury time on the networks will be used for the announcements.

The motion picture industry's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Committee sug-

(Continued on page 4)

20th Chiefs Off for Coast to See 'Wilson'

Spyros P. Skouras, president, and other 20th-Fox executives left over the weekend for the Coast studios to see "Wilson" and discuss this and forthcoming productions with Darryl F. Zanuck and Joseph M. Schenck.

The group included Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales; Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; William J. Kupper, general sales manager; Francis Harley, managing director for Great Britain; L. J. Schlai-

(Continued on page 4)

Arthur Unit Is Uncertain

ST. LOUIS, July 2.—Harry Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon and Marco and organizer of the new, as yet non-functioning Exhibitors Distributing Corp., will leave for Hollywood on Saturday on a trip which may decide whether the plans for the new company will be completed now or will await the end of the war.



Harry Arthur

Arthur explained that the induction of his brothers, who held key positions with Fanchon and Marco, into the Armed Forces, plus accumulated work in St. Louis, has prevented him from going to the West Coast for several weeks. On his last visit to New York, last Spring, Arthur predicted that midsummer would see plans for the Exhibitors Distributing Corp. well under way.

But the delay, plus other factors,

(Continued on page 4)

PRC Sets $120,000 For Advertising

An initial sum of $120,000 has been allocated by PRC to start its advertising for 1944-45, Leon Fromkess, vice-president and general manager, announced here Friday at the closing of the company's sales convention.

Preparations for a campaign has already been launched, under direction of Martin Mooney, supervisor of advertising and publicity, for "Minstrel Man," "Dixie Jamboree" and "Bluebeard."

No Paper July 4

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, July 4, Independence Day and a legal holiday. A four-day holiday, from Friday night to Wednesday morning, was declared by the home offices of Columbia, Loew-MGM, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal, Warners and numerous other offices of distributors, exchanges, circuits, equipment houses and related places.**

$6,000,000 Pathe Stock

The new Pathe Industries, Inc., approved this week in a merger agreement by the stockholders of Pathe's Eastern and Western corporations, has been set up with an authorized capitalization of 200,000 shares of $5 par value common stock and 50,000 shares of $100 par value four-percent cumulative preferred, according to a statement by Kenneth M. Young, chairman of the board.

Stockholders of Pathe Laboratories, Inc., (New Jersey) will receive common stock in the new corporation at the rate of 6.1178 shares for each share previously held and will receive preferred stock at the rate of 1.2235 shares for each former share. The rate of exchange for stock in Pathe Laboratories, Inc., (California) is .1892 for each share of common and .0378 for each of preferred.

The agreement provides for the eventual retirement of the preferred stock through a sinking fund, into which, on March 15 of each year, beginning in 1945, shall be paid 15 percent of the net earnings or an amount equal to the difference between the March 1 cash balance and $250,000, whichever is the lesser.

New Unemployment Laws May Include Theatres

WASHINGTON, July 2. — Extension of the Federal unemployment compensation law to bring every employer and every employee under its provisions will be pressed in Congress, possibly this Fall, as one of several measures dealing with the post-war economic situation.

A report urging such a step was filed with the Senate as it recessed June 23 by the special committee on post-war ecenomic policy and planning, and this subject will be made part of the general program with which Congress must wrestle before the end of the war.

Effect of such a step would be to bring under the unemployment compensation law a number of exhibitors throughout the country who are now exempt from the unemployment taxes because they employ less than eight persons. On the other hand, it would

(Continued on page 4)

2-Month High At Nation's Box Offices

Long July-4th Holiday Sends Grosses Up

Recovering from the first impact of Summer and boosted by the closing of schools, average key first-run grosses throughout the nation last week reached $17,288, the highest since April 22, according to weekend reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents in 126 key cities.

Further gains are indicated for the first week of the second half year, with theatres prospering during the long July-4 holiday, aided considerably by transportation difficulties which are keeping the public home in large numbers. Local beaches, parks and other outdoor places, however, received their share of patronage.

Weekly first-run averages ran consistently about $2,000 ahead of the

(Continued on page 4)

W.B. Theatres Drop Unprofitable Assets

Gradual weeding out of unprofitable assets among Warner theatre department holdings is indicated in another charge-off of $625,000 "for unrealized losses on fixed assets" in the latest earnings statement issued by the company last week for the first six

(Continued on page 4)

Treasury Calls for Help on 'E' Bonds

The Treasury over the weekend called on the industry to intensify the sale of 'E' bonds to individuals and in larger denominations.

Ted R. Gamble of the War Finance Division, conferring with the industry's 'Fighting Fifth' committee on Friday stressed the urgency of the situation.

Following the conference, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry drive chairman, said: "The Fifth War Loan Drive's final week will be the most critical. We must put forth extra effort to overcome the lagging sale of 'E' bonds."

Personal Mention

NORMAN H. MORAY, short subjects sales manager for Warners, returned from the Coast at the weekend.

•

S. W. SINGER, account executive of Buchanan & Co. for International Pictures, left for Hollywood at the weekend to confer with WILLIAM GOETZ, LEO SPITZ and JOHN LE ROY JOHNSTON.

•

MISS NORMA H. MORAY, daughter of NORMAN H. MORAY, short subjects sales manager for Warners, has started a new film program over station WSRR, Stamford, Conn.

•

JIM WOLCOTT, production manager for the March of Time, is the father of a baby girl, JANE FARQUHAR, born to MRS. WOLCOTT June 24 at the New York Lying-In Hospital.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, 20th Century-Fox's publicity manager, and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, advertising manager, celebrated their birthdays Saturday at 21 Club.

•

JACK V. SHEEHAN, in charge of educational and commercial films for Walt Disney Productions, arrived from the Coast at the weekend.

•

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, general manager of RKO's out-of-town theatres, is on tour of the mid-Western territory.

•

JIM KEEFE, 20th Century-Fox field exploitation representative at Cincinnati, is visiting the home office.

•

PETER COLLI, Warners' supervisor in the Caribbean area, left New York at the weekend for Havana.

Honor Stein, Ticktin

Max Stein and Irving Ticktin of the 20th-Fox advertising department here were given a joint bachelor luncheon by home office associates at Rogers Corner Friday. Charles Schlaifer, advertising manager, was toastmaster. Stein and Miss Ida Rabinowitz of Forest Hills were married Saturday and Ticktin and Miss Minna Bister of New Rochelle were married yesterday.

Kreisler in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Bernard Kreisler, former short subject sales manager for Universal in New York is here negotiating deals which may result in his entry into production.

Revel Produced

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Inadvertently omitted in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S review of "Minstrel Man" was Harry Revel, associate producer of that production.

Film Classics to Move

Film Classics will move its home offices from 1270 Sixth Ave., New York, to 18 W. 48th St., about July 15.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE *Chicago-Herald-American*, a newspaper which on more than one occasion in the past has demonstrated its interest in and friendship for this industry, recently gave editorial attention to theatre and motion picture contributions to the Fifth War Loan Drive.

The editorial pointed out that while many industries are contributing generously of their time and effort to the Drive, and many are bearing the expenses of special efforts, theatres and distributors alone are giving up their *cash receipts* through bond premieres to the Fifth.

"Thus," the editorial concludes, "the film industry makes a heavy cash contribution to the bond drive in addition to labor and thought. And thus it demonstrates once more its unselfish devotion to the cause of winning the war."

The Chicago Times, subsequently, gave similar attention to the bond premieres in that city and, it is reported, other Chicago papers will follow suit.

•

The industry, quite naturally, is genuinely appreciative of this important recognition of the bond premiere phase of its patriotic endeavors. Because the bond premieres are a direct industry approach to the public pocketbook, within the sphere of industry war activities, it is desirable, important even, that the public be impressed with the fact that the bond premieres are what they are—an outright contribution of industry facilities, services, time and labor, and of industry cash in the form of rentals and receipts foregone by distributor and exhibitor.

It is just possible that industry representatives in other cities throughout the country will recognize in the *Herald-American's* editorial a service to the industry that need not be confined to a single locality.

• •

Reporters on the consent decree front bring word that two decree companies have been spending restless days and nights over the possibility that the government may go into court for an anti-trust suit trial next, and that three companies don't care if it does.

•

One of the anecdotes going the rounds concerning the recent nomination and election of United Artists directors purports to describe Charlie Chaplin's procedure in exercising his right to be represented on the board by three directors. One of the new by-laws adopted by United Artists in May disqualified any person having an official connection with a competing company from serving on the new United Artists board. At the time, the by-law was said to have been designed to prevent recurrence of the situation which followed Sir Alex Korda's transfer to M-G-M's British production company while still a part owner of United Artists. In effect, however, the by-law disqualified Arthur W. Kelly and Charles Schwartz, the one associated with Eagle-Lion Films, the other with Columbia, and both of whom, except for the by-law, most certainly would have been Chaplin nominees for the new United Artists board.

Accordingly, so the story goes, Chaplin resolved that if Kelly and Schwartz could not sit on the board, they at least could name representatives of their own choosing. So Kelly named Rex Dennant and Schwartz named E. C. Mills. Chaplin's own choice was his brother, Sydney.

• •

Drew Pearson in his Washington Merry-Go-Round column recently revived the report that Eric Johnston, head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, is being sought as a "Hollywood" (i.e., industry) ambassador to Washington. High-placed industry officials readily admit that Johnston would be a desirable addition to the industry's manpower in any position but they shrug off the possibilities of such a tie-up coming to pass at any time in the near future. Their belief is that the industry, at the moment, has nothing attractive enough to offer Johnston which would induce him to leave his present work.

• •

Television News Letter reports that television station WRGB polled its audience on whether it would like to see programs made up of Pearl White film serials and others of that vintage, with a piano accompaniment. That would appear to place present-day motion picture theatre entertainment about thirty years ahead of WRGB's current program ideas.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 2

GREGORY RATOFF, producer-director, was reported in a serious condition in the Cedars Lebanon Hospital following a heart attack.

•

20th-Fox signed CELESE HOLD, one of the leads in "Oklahoma," to a long-term contract. Her first feature will be "Bandwagon." MONTY WOOLLEY'S contract was extended one year by the studio.

•

Benedict Bogeaus is preparing a new film based on the Polan Banks novel, "There Goes Lona Henry," for which Edith Fitzgerald has prepared the screenplay, for Fall production.

•

Warners has set four pictures to start shooting this month, making a total of 10 in work. They are: "San Antonio," "Hapiness," "God Is My Co-Pilot," and "Of Human Bondage."

•

JACK SAYERS, Hollywood manager of the Audience Research Institute, entrains Monday for an eight-weeks business stay in New York.

•

Republic added "Faces in the Fog," a story dealing with juvenile delinquency to its schedule with Jane Withers starring.

PCCITO Approves Washington Report

LOS ANGELES, July 2.—The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners trustees in its quarterly meeting, Friday, in Portland, Ore., unanimously approved the report of H. W. Bruen and Robert Poole on their recent visit to Washington where they laid before the Department of Justice the PCCITO views on the consent decree, and where they also presented to the Office of Civilian Requirements the association's opposition to the OCR's theatre building program.

The PCCITO trustees extended to the Allied States Association an invitation to send an observer and Caravan representative to its quarterly sessions.

William Crasper, of Portland, recently elected president, was also made PCCITO trustee succeeding Bob White.

$710,000 Net for G-B Subsidiary

LONDON, July 2.—Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, of the Gaumont-British group, had a new high trading profit of $5,156,496 during the past year, compared with $4,912,500 the year before, according to an announcement here at the weekend.

With the excess profits tax, however, absorbing $2,136,144 and the income tax $1,399,396, the company's net profit was cut to $710,000. A dividend of 15 per cent was declared on Provincial's ordinary shares, going mainly to Gaumont-British.

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GOODNIGHT TO THE BLUES

High-speed hilarity. It's the dizziest, daffiest blues-chaser of the season.



GOODNIGHT SWEETHEART

ROBERT LIVINGSTON and RUTH TERRY

HENRY HULL
THURSTON HALL

GRANT WITHERS
LLOYD CORRIGAN

JOSEPH SANTLEY — Director

Original Story by Frank Fenton — Joseph Hoffman

Screenplay by Isabel Dawn — Jack Townley

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

JOIN THE FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN

New Unemployment Laws to Be Sought

(Continued from page 1)

extend protection to many thousands of workers who now are not eligible for unemployment relief.

At present, approximately 30,400,000 workers are covered by Federal unemployment compensation. The current labor force is approximately 54,000,000 persons, and while several millions are agricultural workers and domestic employees to whom it is impractical to extend the law, it is indicated that other millions might be brought under its protection by extension to all employers and all employees.

So far as the film industry is concerned, such an extension would bring in several thousand theatres, exchanges and other film places where less than eight persons are employed.

Warner Bros. Speak At Ship Launching

RICHMOND, Cal., July 2.—Addressing a large crowd that saw the launching of the *S.S. Benjamin Warner*, named in honor of the father of the Warner brothers, at Henry Kaiser's Permanente Metal yards here yesterday, Harry M. and Col. Jack L. Warner paid tribute to the builders of the American merchant marine and the personnel who are manning the ships that are carrying men and supplies to the fighting fronts.

"Benjamin Warner knew the meaning of liberty better than we can know it because he had the bitter experience of oppression," said Harry Warner. "On his behalf I want to pay tribute to you gallant men and women who have built this ship, to the officers and men who will sail her, and to the brave men living and dead who have carried the materials of victory to the fighting fronts."

"To the Liberty Ships, the shipyards and the merchant marine we owe an everlasting debt of gratitude, for it was they who made it possible for this country to overcome the handicaps of 'too little and too late' and to carry our full might to the enemy," declared Col. Jack Warner.

20th Chiefs Off for Coast to See 'Wilson'

(Continued from page 1)

fer, Central sales manager; A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, and Sam Shain, assistant to Skouras. W. C. Gehring, Western sales manager will also be present at the conferences. The group will remain at least a week.

MITCHELL MAY, Jr. CO., INC.
INSURANCE
•
Specializing
in requirements of the
Motion Picture Industry
75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

2-Month High at Nation's Box Offices Last Week

(Continued from page 1)

corresponding period in 1943. Last week showed the greatest gain, $4,278.

Films appearing most frequently as leaders in the correspondents' reports included: "Pin-Up Girl," "Make Your Own Bed," "Going My Way," "Cobra Woman," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "Up in Mabel's Room," "And the Angels Sing," "Gaslight" and "The White Cliffs of Dover."

Other strong attractions were: "Buffalo Bill," "It Happened Tomorrow," "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," "Gangway for Tomorrow," "The Desert Song," "Casanova in Burlesque," "Tampico," "See Here, Private Hargrove," "Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid," "Show Business," "Up in Arms," "Her Primitive Man," "Between Two Worlds," "The Eve of St. Mark," "Blonde Trouble," "Bermuda Mystery," "The Girl in the Case," "The Hitler Gang," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Falcon Out West" and "Three Men in White."

Composite records of the year to date, compared with the same weeks last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	135	$2,213,500	$16,396
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16,419
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,900	16,211
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16,307
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	152	3,025,000	13,329
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322
June 23-24	136	2,002,800	14,726
June 30-July 1	126	2,178,300	17,288

1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	127	1,648,600	12,981
Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,538
Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 12-13	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 19-20	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 26-27	147	1,938,200	13,185
April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 16-17	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 23-24	158	2,006,200	12,634
Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12,034
June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010

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Radio Boosts Bond Sales in Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

gested the announcements to the WFC in view of the fact that many retailers will observe a three-day holiday, banks will be closed Monday and Tuesday and Post Offices and other agents on July 4. Arrangements were made by Ray Beall, "Fighting Fifth" National Publicity Director, with Ted R. Gamble, National Director of the WFC and Robert Smith of the WFC division in Washington.

4,000 Filmack Trailers

CHICAGO, July 2.—Over 4,000 Fifth War Loan "Bond Premiere" trailers have been produced by Filmack Trailer, Irving Mack, president, reports here. He indicated that "Free Movie Day" trailers also approximate that number.

Arthur Uncertain On His New Unit

(Continued from page 1)

now raises the possibility that the plans may be deferred until after the war, he explained here today just before leaving for Hollywood.

"Until conferences on the Coast are completed I am not able to say what the final decision will be," Arthur said. "It is possible that we may decide to wait until after the war, but there is also the possibility that everything can be worked out so that plans can be put into operation before then." He will remain in the West for several weeks.

M-G-M Aids 'Free Movie Day'

Howard Dietz, M-G-M advertising manager, is contributing a large portion of M-G-M's radio time to promote "Free Movie Day," July 6, in the Fifth War Loan drive. Eighty-seven Mutual stations will promote "Free Movie Day" on M-G-M's "Screen Test" show. Similar promotions will be made on 68 stations in 46 cities where regular spot announcements are used by M-G-M.

Savoy Sells $234,000

The Savoy Theatre of the Randforce Circuit in Brooklyn sold $234,000 in war bonds at its bond premiere. Within the next week three more Randforce houses will hold premieres as follows: July 5, Messerole; July 6, Marboro; July 11, Lefferts.

Kerman Loses His 'Child Bride' Appeal

ALBANY, N. Y., July 2.—An appeal by the Astor Place Film Exchange, which had been denied the right to exhibit "Child Bride" in New York State, has been dismissed by Dr. George D. Stoddard, State Education Commissioner.

The appeal had been taken to Dr. Stoddard by Moe Kerman of Long Beach, L. I., who appealed from a ruling by the State Education Department's motion picture division, which had banned the film as "indecent, immoral and inhuman." Kerman contended "there was nothing censorable in the film that could not be removed if necessary."

WB Raising '45 Total Above Its 19 for '44

(Continued from page 1)

total is understood to be likely in order to avoid a top-heavy inventory.

Kalmenson, who returned East last week following conclusion of the conferences, and studio executives are understood to be in agreement on a flexible policy, with an eye on current market conditions and possible future changes that might warrant revisions in distribution policy.

WB New Season

The company's new season will start Sept. 2 with "Janie" as the initial release. Two others are slated to follow in the same month. This in itself will be the biggest month's release schedule for Warners in nearly a year.

Among WB features listed for the first four months of 1944-45, in addition to "Janie," are: "Arsenic and Old Lace," "The Conspirators," "The Doughgirls," "Hollywood Canteen," "Crime by Night," "The Very Thought of You" and "The Last Ride." Reissues of "Casablanca" and at least one other also are scheduled.

Also completed when the new season opens will be: "Rhapsody in Blue," "Saratoga Trunk," "Objective, Burma," "Devotion," "Conflict," "The Animal Kingdom," "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "My Reputation," "Cinderella Jones," "To Have and Have Not," "Strangers in Our Midst," "Roughly Speaking," "The Corn Is Green" and "Christmas in Connecticut." All but the last five, which are now in production, have been finished.

Before the Cameras

Next to go before the cameras, some before September, are: "Of Human Bondage," "Dark Eyes," "San Antonio," "A Night at Tony Pastor's," "Hotel Berlin, 1943," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Happiness," and possibly one of the productions to be handled by Jesse L. Lasky, whose schedule now includes three stories: "Don't Ever Leave Me," "The Frontiersman" and "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

While Warners some time ago discontinued the practice of setting a season's budget for production, preferring to give each individual story all that it is worth, average cost is now estimated at well over $1,000,000 per feature.

WB Theaters Drop Unprofitable Assets

(Continued from page 1)

months of the fiscal year. This follows a similar provision for losses amounting to $4,537,222 in the Warner financial statement for the preceding full-year.

Old building properties, leaseholds and miscellaneous real estate are understood to make up the bulk of the fixed assets being disposed of with a view to more efficient integration. Bulk of these deals are in the holdings of the Stanley Company, wholly-owned Warner subsidiary, the last annual statement of which showed a deduction of $3,321,239 for losses on fixed assets. Stanley's accounts are consolidated with Warner's financial

Fifth War Loan Drive!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 56. NO. 2 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

Only 2% Drop In Dual Bills In Two Years

71% of Theatres Have Doubles, Survey Shows

There has been a decline of but two percent in two years in the number of theatres showing double bills, despite complaints from exhibitors in practically all sectors that a shortage of product of varying degree has existed since product curtailments started with the 1942-43 season following Pearl Harbor.

A field survey by *Motion Picture Daily* discloses that approximately 71 per cent of the country's 16,500-odd theatres show double bills regularly or otherwise, against 73 percent two years ago when distributors started reducing the number of new releases.

The double-feature survey reveals that the reduction of new pictures has been more than offset by the increased number of reissues, while prospects of an even greater volume of revivals in the season ahead presages more than ample product for widespread continuation of double bills.

In the Manhattan territory, with the exception of the 14 Broadway first-runs, approximately 60 per cent of all houses are on a regular double-feature basis—the lowest ratio of any section of its size in the country.

Reissues Sustain Chicago's Duals

CHICAGO, July 4.—Despite increasing complaints from local exhibitors on the shortage of product, few of them, a check-up reveals, are willing to switch to single bill policies to relieve the situation. Instead, re-issues are getting a bigger play than ever before, and little known product from the smaller companies which would otherwise get scant attention is being widely used as co-features on twin bills.

The situation has created a new, heavy demand for re-issues, with the result that most exchanges are out of available prints of the more popular product released from two to five years ago.

A. J. Platt, district manager for Balaban and Katz Theatres here,

(*Continued on page* 9)

New Films Strong In Spotty Holiday Week on Broadway

Although fine weather resulted in a general holiday weekend exodus from the city, despite Government warnings against traveling, thus causing only average grosses for some of the holdover films at Broadway theatres, a number of new pictures opened strong and are piling up high receipts for the week.

"Once Upon a Time," supported by a stage show at the Music Hall, mecca for out-of-town visitors, who were here in large numbers, brought $76,000 in four days through Sunday and promises a very large opening week total of $129,000. It will continue until "Dragon Seed" takes over on July 20. "Christmas Holiday" last Wednesday broke all opening-day records at the Criterion and will do about $42,000 for the week, on the basis of $32,000 prior to Monday. The run is expected to continue three or four weeks and will be followed by "Mr. Winkle Goes to War." "The Hairy Ape," set for an indefinite stay at the Globe, took $8,300 in its first two days and should round out the week Friday with a good $17,500. "Bathing Beauty" began with $24,000

(*Continued on page* 10)

Admission Tax Yields Over $200,000,000

WASHINGTON, July 4.—Admission tax accounted for a little over $200,000,000 for the fiscal year which ended June 30, it was disclosed yesterday by Sec'y of the Treasury Morgantheau. Collections from the Federal tax on admissions have increased tenfold in the past six years, it was also disclosed by Internal Revenue Bureau records. For the fiscal year of 1939, receipts

(*Continued on page* 9)

Business Good, Not Sensational

Theatre business over the four-day Independence Holiday was generally good, or better, although not sensational, according to telegraphic reports received by *Motion Picture Daily*. Excellent weather in most sectors caused great influxes of visitors and servicemen to downtown areas, but they picked their screen-fare, as witness the business done by new runs and the comparative ordinary returns reported by holdovers.

Seek Trade Envoys In Washington

WASHINGTON, July 4.—Representatives of the motion picture industry are combing Washington in an effort to locate men of the type required to send as "ambassadors" to the world capitals to protect our post-war foreign film trade, reportedly with little success so far.

While in ordinary times it would be possible to secure such men quickly and in adequate numbers, men meeting the industry's requirements are today filling important posts in the Government and essential industries which they are reluctant to leave until the end of the war and from which, in fact, it would be difficult to secure necessary release.

It is understood that the industry is carefully keeping away from the State Department, although it has been reported several department men have been approached, and there is no thought of "raiding" the department which will take an active part in supporting efforts of the film men abroad.

Stocks Gain $78,512,888; '37 High Hit By Several

Motion picture shares, participating actively in an early Summer bull market on the stock exchange, increased $78,512,888 in market value during the first six months of 1944. Not a single film stock depreciated in the six months on either the New York Stock Exchange or Curb Market.

Spurred by mounting United Nations' offensives on all battlefronts, Wall Street traders bid briskly for stocks of companies with the greatest peacetime potentialities. Among these, motion picture stocks were rated high.

Gains ranging from one to nine points over final 1943 prices were recorded by film shares on the "Big Board." Corresponding advances were made by film securities on the Curb Market.

Accompanied by sharply accelerated

(*Continued on page* 4)

8,573 Line Up For 5th 'Movie Day' July 6th

Five Nets Tonight to Promote Theatre Event

At least 8,573 theatres—half the theatres in the nation—will hold 'Free Movie Day' tomorrow, with an all-time record for 'E' bond sales in theatres expected for the day, according to national 'Fighting Fifth" committee headquarters here, on the basis of reports from distributor chairmen in all exchange centers.

The 8,573 compares with 3,403 theatres which staged 'Free Movie Day' in the Fourth War Loan.

In several states, including Minnesota, Florida, Eastern Pennsylvania

(*Continued on page* 10)

MPTOA Outlines Postwar Program

Exhibitors "controversies and grievances" which "the war has smothered but not solved" are outlined in a postwar program of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, made public by E. L. Kuykendall, president, from MPTOA headquarters here.

Listed for "present consideration and future attention" of the membership are: "excessive film prices caused by

(*Continued on page* 9)

Fitzgibbons Makes Key Promotions

TORONTO, July 4.—Important changes have developed in the Famous Players organization, following the annual Western managers convention of the circuit at Banff, Alta. Larry Bearg of Vancouver, British Columbia supervisor, has been promoted to Western division general manager with headquarters at the Toronto home office. Frank Kershaw at Calgary is transferred to Vancouver to become district manager, and Eddie Zorn, district manager at Winnipeg, will look after the Calgary territory to become Mid-West district director.

Following the Banff conference, F. P.-C. president J. J. Fitzgibbons, vice-president R. W. Bolstad and James R.

(*Continued on page* 9)

Personal Mention

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres' labor relations contact, will leave for Boston today.

•

HARRY BALL, Philadelphia exhibitor, and SAMUEL SCHWARTZ, former real estate head of the Warner circuit in Philadelphia, will be local co-chairmen of the Los Angeles Sanitarium fund drive starting July 22.

•

HARRY F. SHAW, Loew's New England division manager, and LOU BROWN, publicity chief for the company there, were visitors in Hartford, Conn., this week.

•

ARY LIMA, Warners' general manager in Brazil, will leave here today for his Rio de Janeiro hadquarters after a 10-week visit to New York and Hollywood.

•

TOM BAIRD, director of the film division here of the British Information Services, will return Monday from a vacation.

•

ABRAHAM SINOW of Warners Theatres, Bridgeport, Conn., is the father of a baby girl, born last weekend.

•

FLORENCE KIPP, RKO division short subjects booker in Cincinnati, has returned from New York.

•

ROBERT J. FOLLIARD, RKO Philadelphia district manager, is the father of a son born recently.

'U's' Scully Drive Awards Announced

First prizes in Universal's "William Scully Anniversary Drive" went to D. A. Levy, New York; Jack Langan, Kansas City, and J. V. Pavone, New Haven.

Second prizes were awarded to: Foster Blake, Los Angeles; L. Brauer, Charlotte, and Sam Milner, Seattle. Other awards were as follows: third, Lon Hoss, San Francisco; W. M. Richardson, Atlanta, and Mayer Monsky, Denver; fourth, P. T. Dana, Pittsburgh; Harry Hines, St. Louis, and C. R. Wade, Salt Lake City; fifth, George Schwartz, Philadelphia; Frank Mantzke, Milwaukee, and R. O. Wilson, Portland. The entire office personnel of each branch shared in the prizes.

Liberty Runs Article On Zanuck's 'Wilson'

Liberty magazine this week has an article by Ted Shane on Darryl Zanuck's "Wilson," describing the genesis and story of the film, emphasizing writer Lamar Trotti's research.

Zanuck's purpose is quoted as being "to show how Wilson's tragedy was a world tragedy—so that this time, when the boys get together over the peace table, they won't make the same mistake." He adds that "the whole thing will cost more than anything that has yet come out of Hollywood."

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

AS the latest in what threatens as a series of generalized and always unproven attacks on the industry, we give you Martin Dies, Congressman about to become ex, via Walter Naughton in a copyright despatch published in the *Los Angeles Examiner*. Whether in any other Hearst newspaper, we do not know.

These are quotes credited to Dies, the type emphasis matching off phrases similarly stressed in the original article:

"Hollywood is the greatest source of revenue in this nation for the Communists and other subversive groups. . . . Generally, the motion picture industry is substantial, sound and progressive. It is an AMERICAN INSTITUTION.

"Its executives, or at least most of them, realize that they mold opinions of millions of Americans, including teen-age youngsters later to become the citizens who must carry on in the AMERICAN WAY.

"Hollywood's stars willingly give their time to the war effort and their record in this field is a GLORIOUS ONE. Many have JEOPARDIZED THEIR LIVES to entertain under shellfire.

"That is just part of the good side. Now, let's look at the bad. In my opinion, two elements stand out in this category—the making of pictures which extoll a foreign ideology—propaganda for a cause which seeks to spread its ideas to our people, and the 'leftist' or radical screen writers.

"Both are absolutely UNEXPLAINABLE and UNBELIEVABLE. Foreign propaganda releases have been made. Many of them (screen writers) perhaps in the belief they are aiding a cause they could not even give an intelligent explanation if called on to do, slyly and cleverly insert these 'leftist' ideas in their screen writings.

"Occasionally, some of the top film players get 'off the beam' and join the subversive movements. But, in most instances they realize the folly and shallowness of the program they have joined and get 'back in step.'

■

Dies then sounded this warning to the executives of the industry:

"In my opinion, if it is worth anything, they will do well to halt the propaganda pictures and eliminate every writer who has un-American ideas. Many successful efforts have been made along these lines.

"But if it is not done, it will be the executives and the persons who have their money invested in the industry who will PAY THE PRICE. And, believe me, they will pay DEARLY when the turnover comes and solid, substantial American life is fully restored.

"The offenders won't have to pay. They won't be on hand but will have RUN FOR COVER with their Communistic associates."

■

Already here in Hollywood the refusal or the inability of the Motion Picture Alliance to back up its charges of "widespread impressions" that the industry is made up of and dominated by Communists, radicals and crackpots has much of the colony in an uproar. It is the kind of uproar that does not always get into the open as it did at the mass meeting of 17 guilds and unions a handful of nights ago. Executives, many of them in high places, have been discussing the situation for weeks and, while they do their discussing in private, they are doing it.

The producers' association is credited with "regretting" the internecine type of warfare which the issue has precipitated between the Alliance on the one side and those guilds and unions on the other. It fears the industry is being injured, yet it undertakes nothing in defense.

■

Now comes Dies with an onslaught of the same general markings. "Foreign propaganda releases," for one thing. "Top film players off the beam," for another. "Writers with un-American ideas," for a third.

No names. No places. No dates. No identification of any character, but merely a cry let loose on the public while the industry, as a solid and united industry, stands by.

Thus, the Alliance strikes from within. Dies strikes from without. On the receiving end of both is the business, getting the business. But good.

Why, and for how much longer?

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 4

WILL HAYS will arrive here tomorrow from New York.

•

Chinese Ambassador Dr. Wei Tao-Ming will be the guest of honor at a dinner on July 8 at the Ambassador Hotel, given by the United Nations War Relief Committee of Southern California, in collaboration with the Los Angeles War Chest. Paul Lukas and Jennifer Jones will star in a dramatic tribute shortwaved to the Fighting Fronts.

•

Universal has picked up the option of Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, writer-producer combination. They are working currently on "That's the Spirit" for Jack Oakie and Peggy Ryan; they will also produce.

•

Aexis Smith and Zachary Scott will play leads in "San Antonio" at Warners with Raymond Massey in support. Robert Buckner will produce and Raoul Walsh will direct.

•

Charles Vidor will direct the untitled romantic drama starring Irene Dunne and Charles Boyer at Columbia. It will go into production in two weeks.

•

Al Jolson, a war bond and Army hospital tour behind him, is back at Columbia to prepare for "Burlesque," his first producer chore.

Canadian Operators Get Overtime Pay

TORONTO, July 4.—Contracts for the new theatre year calling for a new overtime provision have been signed with all circuits in the Dominion, it was anounced here by William P. Covert of Toronto, International vice-president of the IATSE, representing organized projectionists.

The new clause provides the rate of time and a half for all overtime work, including midnight performances. Covert pointed out that the previous contract had granted vacations with pay for the operators and the circuits have had now agreed to the new overtime scale.

Covert said the International had expanded to the extent of 18 new operators' locals in Ontario alone. He added that the projectionists had taken no part in the new organization move for the Film Exchange Employes Union by the AFL.

Grainger Sells M.&P. For New Season

Republic has closed a contract for its 1944-45 product with M. & P. Theatres, operating 117 houses in New England. M. J. Mullin and Chester Stoddard of M. & P. negotiated the deal with J. R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, Jack Davis and Sam Seletsky.

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Every Theatre: Free Movie Day July 6th! "The Fighting Fifth" Victory Climax!



M-G-M's ASTOR HONEY!

BATHING BEAUTY

"BATHING BEAUTY" starring Red Skelton with Esther Williams, Basil Rathbone, Bill Goodwin, Ethel Smith, Jean Porter, Carlos Ramirez, Harry James and his Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra with Lina Romay. Photographed in Technicolor. Screen Play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman. Adaptation by Joseph Schrank. Directed by George Sidney. Produced by Jack Cummings. An M-G-M Picture.

"LOST ANGEL" STAR IS BACK!

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

Margaret O'Brien, Charles Laughton, Robert Young, in "THE CANTERVILLE GHOST" with William Gargan, Reginald Owen, "Rags" Ragland, Una O'Connor. Screen Play by Edwin Harvey Blum. Based on "The Canterville Ghost" by Oscar Wilde. Directed by Jules Dassin. Produced by Arthur L. Field. A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture.

Two Beauties from M-G-M

(Just TWO in Leo's New Group No. 8, but what a Terrific Twosome!)

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924–1944 MGM

Film Stock and Bond Prices in 1st Six Months

High and Low in Stock and Bond Trading for Five Years

(Closing Prices for 1944 in All Charts Are As of June 30)

New York Stock Exchange

Stock & Dividend	Six Months, Jan. 1-June 30, 1944 High	Low	Last June 30	Net Change	1943 High	Low	1942 High	Low	1941 High	Low	1940 High	Low
Columbia Pictures (½a)	22¼	16¼	21⅞	+ 5⅛	19¼	9	11¼	5⅛	7⅞	4¼	8½	3½
Columbia Pictures pfd. (2¾)	46	39⅛	46	+ 6¾	41	30½	35	24	28½	21¼	26	14¾
Consolidated Film	6⅛	2¾	6	+ 3	3⅜	½	¾	⅜	1¼	¼	1⅛	½
Consolidated Film pfd. (¼b)	25⅞	16⅝	24⅜	+ 7½	19¾	7⅝	9	7	11	7	10½	5¼
Eastman Kodak (5)	171	157	171	+ 7½	170	146½	151½	108	145½	120¼	166¾	117
Eastman Kodak pfd (6)	184	175	182	+ 2	184	173	180	170	182½	160	180	155
Gen. Precision (1)	23¾	18⅞	22½	+ 3	24½	13⅝	14¾	10¾	16¼	9⅝	13⅜	7¾
Keith-Albee-Orph. pfd. (7)	111	110	111	+ 1½	115	103⅝	103	93½	121½	95	109	95
Loew's, Inc. (2c)	67⅝	58	67⅝	+ 9⅛	64½	42¼	43¾	37	39⅜	28	37⅝	20½
Paramount (1.60)	29⅜	23⅜	28⅝	+ 4⅞	30	15½	17½	11¾	16⅛	10	10⅞	4¼
Radio-Keith-Orph.	10¼	7⅞	10¼	+ 2½	10⅛	3½	3⅞	2	3¾	2	3⅝	2⅛
Radio-Keith pfd. (6)	107¾	85⅛	91¾	+ 4¼	101½	54¼	54¼	34⅝	55½	38½	not listed	
20th Century-Fox (¼d)	26½	21⅛	25⅞	+ 3¾	24¾	12⅞	16	7⅛	9⅝	5	13¾	5
20th Cent.-F. pfd. (1½)	33½	28¾	32⅝	+ 4⅛	34½	25	26¾	19¼	24	16½	25¾	14
20th Cent.-F. pr. pfd. (4½)	104	100	104	+ 4¼	101	99	not listed					
Warner Brothers	14⅜	11½	14	+ 2	15¾	7⅜	8½	4¼	6⅛	2¾	4¼	2

a—paid last year; b—accumulated; c—including extras; d—so far this year.

New York Curb Exchange

Stock & Dividend	Six Months, Jan. 1-June 30, 1944 High	Low	Last June 30	Net Change from Close 1943	1943 High	Low	1942 High	Low	1941 High	Low	1940 High	Low
Monogram Pictures	4¼	2⅞	3⅝	+ ⅝	4	⅞	1¼	½	1⅛	¼	1	¾
Radio-Keith-Orpheum opt. war.	1⅞	1¼	1⅝	+ ⅜	2⅛	7/32	not listed					
Sentry Safety Control	13/16	⅜	⅝	+3/16	⅝	3/16	5/16	⅛	½	⅜	1⅛	3/16
Technicolor (½a)	19⅜	12½	18¼	+ 5⅞	15½	6⅝	8⅞	6⅞	11	6⅛	16⅜	8¼
Trans-Lux (.10A)	4⅝	3	4⅝	+ ⅜	4⅜	1⅝	1½	½	1	⅜	1⅝	⅝
Universal Pictures (1b)	26	18½	23	+ 5½	19¾	16	44	25	30½	14⅝	15⅝	⅝
Universal Pict. v.t.c. (1b)	23⅞	18	21¼	+ 4¼	19¾	9⅜	not listed				15¾	4

a—Paid last year; b—so far this year.

Bonds on Stock Exchange

Bond and Maturity	Six Months, Jan. 1-June 30, 1944 High	Low	Last June 30	Net Change from Close 1943	1943 High	Low	1942 High	Low	1941 High	Low	1940 High	Low
Paramount B'way 3s '55 ct	95½	85⅝	95¼	+ 9¼	86	67	71	58⅛	60½	52	52½	40

Comparison of Valuation of Stock Issues, Jan. 1-June 30, 1944

Stock	Shares Listed	Close 1943	Valuation	Last June 30, '44	Valuation	Net Change	
Columbia Pictures	366,268	16¾	$6,135,289	21⅞	$8,012,112	+5⅛	+ $1,876,823
Columbia Pictures, pfd.	75,000	39¼	2,943,750	46	3,450,000	+6¾	+ 506,250
Consolidated Film	524,973	3	1,574,919	6	3,149,838	+3	+ 1,574,919
Consolidated Film, pfd.	400,000	16⅞	6,750,000	24⅜	9,750,000	+7½	+ 3,000,000
Eastman Kodak	2,476,013	163½	404,828,125	171	423,398,223	+7½	+ 18,570,098
Eastman Kodak, pfd.	61,657	180	11,098,260	182	11,221,574	+2	+ 123,314
General Precision	586,087	19½	11,428,696	22½	13,186,957	+3	+ 1,758,261
Keith-Albee-Orpheum, pfd.	63,586	109½	6,960,477	111	7,058,046	+1½	+ 97,569
Loew's, Inc.	1.665,713	58½	97,444,210	67½	112,435,627	+9	+ 14,991,417
Paramount	2.465,927	23¾	58,565,766	28⅝	70,587,160	+4⅞	+ 12,021,394
Radio-Keith-Orpheum	2,753,053	7¾	21,336,160	10¼	28,218,793	+2½	+ 6,882,633
Radio-Keith, pfd.	128,170	96½	12,368,405	91¾	11,759,597	—4¾	— 608,808
20th Century-Fox	1.741,995	22⅛	38,541,639	25⅞	45,074,120	+3¾	+ 6,532,481
20th Century-Fox, pfd.	917,420	28½	26,146,470	32⅝	29,930,827	+4⅛	+ 3,784,357
Warner Brothers	3,701,090	12	44,413,080	14	51,815,260	+2	+ 7,402,180
			$750,535,246		$829,048,134		+$78,512,888

$78,512,888 Gain In Film Stocks

(*Continued from page* 1)

trading, the listed value of film shares on the New York Stock Exchange rose to $829,048,134, compared with $750,535,246 at the end of 1943. Many issues touched their highest levels since 1937.

Among active film stocks biggest gains for the half-year were shown by Columbia Pictures, up five and one-eighth, Loew's, up nine, Paramount, up four and seven-eighths, 20th Century-Fox, up three and three-quarters, and Warner Brothers, up two. Technicolor featured film stock trading on the Curb, with a rise of more than seven points to above 19, its best price in several years.

In addition to the influence of a generally rising stock market, interest in several of the film company shares was heightened by favorable news developments such as the declaration by Loew's of an extra dividend of 50 cents a share on its common stock, in addition to the regular quarterly payment of 50 cents a share, payable to stockholders of record of June 16.

Prospects of a continued favorable earnings trend for Paramount Pictures brought good demand on that stock. Company president Barney Balaban reported that earnings for the company's second quarter were expected to exceed the corresponding period of 1943, despite higher tax payments.

Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corp. reported a net income of $3,186,303 for the 13 weeks ended March 25, 1944, compared with $2,672,773 for the 13 weeks ended March 27, 1943. Earnings for the 1944 period were equal to $1.57 a common share, against $1.34 a share in 1943.

Warners Sets First Two

The first two Warner releases for 1944-45 will be "Janie," which goes into national distribution Sept. 2, and "Crime by Night," set for Sept. 9.



As *action-packed* a story as ever came out of the SATURDAY EVENING POST!

...and it's a best-selling novel, too!

PAT O'BRIEN and

GO INTO

ALL kinds of

this kind . . .



IN "SECRET CO

CHESTER

RUTH WARRICK · BARTON MacLANE

Screen Play by ROY CHANSLOR
Produced by PHIL L. RYAN
for TERNEEN PRODUCTIONS

CAROLE LANDIS

...ACTION...

...ACTION...

...this kind



...and this kind...



...MMAND"

MORRIS

TOM TULLY · WALLACE FORD

Based upon a Saturday Evening Post story and best selling novel by JOHN HAWKINS and WARD HAWKIN

Directed by EDDIE SUTHERLAND

A COLUMBIA PICTUR

COLUMBIA PICTURES

As action-packed a picture as ever came out of COLUMBIA!



PRINTED IN U S. A

Reissues Sustain Chicago's Duals

(*Continued from page* 1)

states that re-issues are doing a good job today in helping to round out theatre programs. He feels that the decision on the pictures to be re-issued should be left to the picture companies who know what current stars are in their older films and what would make the most timely programs. He cited as an example Paramount's announcement to double-bill "Trail of the Lonesome Pine" and "Union Pacific."

Ed Mager, booker for Allied Theatres of Illinois, differs with Platt. He claims that the exhibitor should be given the opportunity to select any re-issue he desires, at any chosen time. This procedure, he explains, gives the exhibitor almost an exclusive on the picture in his neighborhood, whereas a general re-issue is as competitive to the exhibitor as any new picture. Mager says that exhibitors welcome re-issues, and in most cases they help balance the current load of war pictures.

Re-issue Policy

Indiana-Illinois Circuit has a mid-week re-issue policy in its small town theaters, and the programs are very profitable and popular. A spokesman for the circuit stated that re-issues are good if shown legitimately. Some exhibitors, it has been noted, will play up the star of the re-issue and underplay the name of the film, to mislead the patron into thinking he will be seeing a new picture. This is particularly irksome to a competitive house which has the same star in a new film, it was said.

Warners this week has set up a schedule for "The Young in Heart," re-issued by World Wide here, and expects to revive a number of others of the past. The Oriental in the Loop welcomes re-issues.

Admission Tax Yields Over $200,000,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

were $19,470,802, increasing to $21,887,916 in 1940; $70,963,094 in 1941; $115,032,269 in 1942, and $154,450,723 in 1943. Under the rate now in effect, the 1943 revenue is expected to be doubled in the fiscal year now beginning.

Government revenue reached the all-time high of $44,149,000,000, nearly double the $21,867,000,000 secured in the previous year. Expenditures for the year, however, amounted to $93,744,000,000, resulting in a net deficit of $49,595,000,000, which brought the public debt to $201,000,000,000.

MGM Buys 16mm Short

PRINCETON, N. J., July 4.—M-G-M has bought "Sons of Conquistadores," a Princeton Film Center production originally made as a two-reeler in 16mm kodachrome for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. It will re re-edited to one-reel length and released as "Somewhere in America."


FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

Fitzgibbons Makes Key Promotions

(*Continued from page* 1)

Nairn, circuit advertising manager, proceeded to Vancouver to complete details of the new arrangement.

Morris Stein, general manager at the Toronto head office, will devote his attention to theatres in Eastern Canada, with Bearg in charge of theatre operation from Fort William to the Pacific Coast. Stein has recovered from a recent serious operation.

Because of Western developments, Fitzgibbons and Bolstad were unable to return to Toronto in time to attend the convention of Paramount Film Service Ltd. last week.

MPTOA Outlines Postwar Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

small block selling and extended first runs, inflexible terms applied alike to the big first-run theatre and last runs, percentage pictures sold in tie-ups with flat rental pictures, overbuying of product to deprive a competitor of needed films, unreasonable clearance secured by private deals and agreements in the absence of uniform zoning plans, and the music tax representing a third payment by an exhibitor for the same music recorded on a film."

Kuykendall warns that "overseating will again become a critical problem when the war ends; cut-rate competition also will again come out; and unfair non-theatrical competition will be revived, spurred on by used portable equipment dumped on the market by the Government."

The bulletin calls for "cooperative booking agencies operated fairly and efficiently, arbitration and mediation by local organized boards within the industry, and a simplified standard exhibition contract to give the exhibitor some chance of knowing what he agrees to."

$254,000 for Skouras From 20th in Year

PHILADELPHIA, July 4.—Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, received a salary of $253,999 last year, it was disclosed in a company report to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Second on the list of highest salaries paid by 20th is actor Don Ameche, with $247,667. Other top listings include: Charles Skouras, manager of National Theatres, $130,000 plus $185,000 as his share of profits, and Henry King, director, $203,333. The law firm of Willkie, Owen, Otis, Farr and Gallagher received $255,000 in legal fees for the year. Wendell L. Willkie is chairman of the 20th-Fox board of directors.

Newspaper to Tele. Cast

PHILADELPHIA, July 4.—The *Philadelphia Inquirer,* published by Walter Annenberg, has applied for a television license following the purchase of radio station WPEN, and is believed to be the first newspaper to enter the television field. The *Evening Bulletin* has purchased WPEN's FM adjunct.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood July 4

PARAMOUNT has reached a production peak which necessitates using all 18 of the stages on its lot. The largest single space unit is that used by the "Two Years Before the Mast" company, with five sets occupying three stages. Mark Sandrich has four units working on the musical, "Here Come the Waves." Other features shooting are: "Her Heart in Her Throat," "Kitty" and "Out of This World." Because of crowded conditions at the home studio, "Murder, He Says" is shooting at the California Studios.

•

Harry Carey, veteran star, who limits his screen appearances to two or three pictures a year, has signed a contract to star in "Little Devils," Monogram's story of young Chinese patriots. Producer Grant Withers' search for a Chinese boy to play the "Little Generalissimo," leader of the group, has been concluded with the casting of a San Francisco schoolboy for the part. . . . Billy, son of Dr. Clifford and Mrs. Severn, has been signed by M-G-M for a part in "Son of Lassie."

•

RKO has cast Robert Mitchum in the top role in the forthcoming Zane Grey Western, "Nevada," . . . Sidney Toler's next "Charlie Chan," characterization for Monogram will be "Mystery Mansion," to start this month. . . . Stuart Erwin will be starred in PRC's horse racing story, "At the Post," which Leon Fromkess will produce with Martin Mooney as his executive producer.

•

Four pictures are scheduled to start at Warners this month, raising the total shooting to ten, largest number in the studio's history. Features due to start include: "San Antonio," Errol Flynn starrer, which Raoul Walsh will direct for producer Robert Buckner; "Happiness," from the novel by Mildred Cram, assigned to Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein; "God Is My Co-Pilot," from the novel by Colonel Robert Lee Scott, which Robert Florey will direct, and "Of Human Bondage," with Eleanor Parker in the top feminine spot. Henry Blanke will produce.

•

Jeanne Crain will have one of the leading roles in "Leave Her to Heaven." The young player has been given a new contract by 20th Century-Fox which calls for star billing and a considerable rise in salary.

Women's Wage Law Goes Into Effect

ALBANY, N. Y., July 4.—The new wage law guaranteeing working women in this state pay equal to male laborers in the same jobs went into effect this week.

Sponsored by Assemblyman Jane H. Todd of Westchester, the measure covers all female workers excepting domestic servants, farm laborers and women employed by charitable, religious, scientific or educational foundations or other non-profit groups. Violators of the new regulation are subject to a $50 fine.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT in
"ONCE UPON A TIME"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
See Stilwell in the War's Most Incredible Venture
BACK DOOR TO TOKYO
THE LATEST MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's Comedy Hit
'SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE'
with ROBERT WALKER
as Private Hargrove
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
WILLIE HOWARD

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

JULES LEVEY PRESENTS
William Bendix — Susan Hayward
IN
"THE HAIRY APE"
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS
AIR CONDITIONED
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 46th ST. GLOBE

FILM CLASSICS
DEAD END
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 47 ST. GOTHAM
Eddie CANTOR-
KID FROM SPAIN
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
MAURER'S B'WAY & 46 ST. VICTORIA

'Free Movie Day' at 8,573 Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

and others, all theatres are scheduled to observe the event. All of the 700 theatres in the New York metropolitan area will be included.

All theatres participating in 'Free Movie Day' will admit free any person who buys a war bond.

The nationwide observance will be heralded by one of the greatest radio barrages ever given to a motion picture industry campaign. An estimated 69,000,000 listeners who tune in this evening will hear announcements on five major radio networks calling their attention to the event. Additional unestimated millions will hear the announcement over scores of local stations today and tomorrow.

In Crossley-Hooper figures, this 'package' will reach even beyond the Fifth War Loan kickoff broadcast from Texarkana on June 12 in which President Roosevelt, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Hollywood luminaries participated. Although the four networks carried that show, it could be heard only the hour it was on the air. This evening, however, the 'Free Movie Day' message will run four hours.

During this morning and afternoon 'Movie Day' promotions will also be heard on 660 network-affiliated stations which have received special 'Free Movie Day' material.

10 Companies Pledge Doubled Bond Buys

The home offices of 10 film companies have set Fifth War Loan goals among executives and employees almost double those of previous bond drives, according to a report made at the weekend to chairman C. C. Moskowitz, New York film bond chairman.

Each company has filed certificates of intention with the Treasury, pledging definite goals. Columbia has set $232,000 as its home office employees and executives' goal. Loew's pledged $325,000 for a five-car hospital train at $65,000 per car. Paramount's $175,000 sales are for one hospital plane ($125,000) and one fighter plane ($50,000). Republic, with a quota of $10,290, will buy 10 amphibian jeeps.

Twentieth Century-Fox, with $250,000, will buy one heavy bomber. Universal, with $125,000, will pay for a medium bomber. United Artists is selling $50,000 worth for one army fighter plane. Warners are "purchasing" a ten-car overseas hospital train, total cost $146,000. RKO, with $90,000, will provide a 750-bed evacuation hospital. PRC will buy three ambulances with $10,290.

Australia Extends Funds' Agreement

The Australian government extended for another year the agreement which permits American film companies to receive income from that country.

The one-year limitation was imposed to permit Australia to examine its overseas exchange position. At the time the restrictions on export of income were lifted, $4,000,000 in U. S. film companies' income was released. Other British Empire countries, in similar actions, refrained from imposing a time limit on the release of funds.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



TOMORROW START FIRST ENGAGEMENTS OF THE PICTURE ALL TRADE REVIEWERS HAVE BEEN RAVING OVER AS THE "TOP MELODRAMA OF THE YEAR"... PARAMOUNT'S THRILLING **"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"**... QUOTING RIGHT FROM THESE REVIEWS, THIS "MOST GRIPPING" "SUSPENSEFUL" "SPELLBINDING" "OVERPOWERING" MELODRAMA STARRING FRED MAC MURRAY, BARBARA STANWYCK AND EDWARD G. ROBINSON IS "CERTAIN BOX-OFFICE INSURANCE"

New Films Strong In Spotty Holiday Week on Broadway

(*Continued from page* 1)

in its first 6 days at the Astor and will continue. No date has been set for "American Romance," which is scheduled to follow.

Holdovers

Among the holdovers, the Capital continues to set the pace, with "Two Girls and a Sailor," plus Sammy Kaye's orchestra on the stage, realizing $52,000 in the first five days of its third week and heading for $85,000. It will run until July 20, when "Since You Went Away" will arrive. "Going My Way" and a show topped by Charlies Spivak's orchestra is enjoying a $71,000 ninth week, the equal of the eighth, and today enters the week that will tie it with "Lady in the Dark" for the Paramount's long-run record. "And the Angels Sing" is scheduled to open there July 12.

Dropping grosses were suffered by several. "The Story of Dr. Wassell," continuing at the Rivoli, ended its fourth week yesterday with $38,000. The sixth for "Mr. Skeffington" at the Hollywood brought a modest $12,700 in four days through Sunday and should total about $19,000, but the film will hold. The Roxy, where business was below that of the July 4 period last year, had an estimated $70,000 for the second week of "Home in Indiana" and a stage bill topped by Enric Madriguera's orchestra, with $50,000 counted in five days through Sunday; "Take It or Leave It" and Duke Ellington's orchestra will go into the house next Wednesday. "The Mask of Dimitrios," with Louis Prima's orchestra, did a disappointing $18,500 in the first three days of its second week, indicating a total of $40,000 for the seven-day period; this bill will continue one more week, with the popular-priced run of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" coming next.

"Marine Raiders" will do a better-than-average $19,000 for its opening week at the Palace through Friday and is set to continue; "Step Lively" will follow on a date not yet determined. A revival of "Dead End" had a good $5,000 in its first two days through Sunday, presaging $14,000 for the week, and "Fantasia" in a return engagement brought the Manhattan $3,500 over the weekend for a promise of $11,000 through Friday; both are scheduled to run indefinitely.

In a postscript on the seven-week run of "The White Cliffs of Dover," which closed last Wednesday, the Music Hall management reports an overall gross of $800,000 for the period, approbately $50,000 better than any film that has played the house for the same length of time.

Film Companies Now Protected in Rome

Properties of M-G-M, Paramount, Warners and other American film companies and business establishments in Rome are now operating under the protection of the Allies' regional property control office, headed in Rome by Major Paul D. Shiver, it is disclosed in press dispatches arriving here from the Italian capital.

Some American business houses were described as already operating at a profit.

JOIN THE *Hole-in-One* CLUB



ASK OUR SALESMEN ABOUT OU.
NEO-ART SPECIAL DISPLAY.

Don't go 'round plowing big divots out of your theatre investment... Don't slice your profits ... and don't use the wrong kind of Advertising clubs ... Correct your Box Office stance ... Get yourself a good caddie ... one who goes 'round with all the smart players of this industry ... and who always hands you the right clubs ... Then address that ball like a Showman ... Tee off like a money-maker and sink that drive squarely in the middle of the BIG PROFITS cup ... Remember this caddie is always at *your* service... National Screen Service ... where showmanship hooks, tops and slices ... are corrected with good Advertising.

"BUY and BUY BONDS"
for
"BYE and BYE FUNDS"
Fighting Fifth War Loan!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY



Escapist?

Here comes Mr. WINKLE!

Mr. Winkle goes to war . . . and the whole nation's love goes with him. Mild, meek and 44, he captures America's heart as the timid soul who hadn't the courage to talk back to his wife . . . but who has enough guts to bawl out his sergeant . . . and become a national hero!

Mr. Winkle Goes to War

PRE-SOLD TO MILLIONS . . .
as a best-selling book
. . . and syndicated
newspaper serial!

Edward G. ROBINSON

in COLUMBIA PICTURES'

Mr. WINKLE GOES to WAR

with RUTH WARRICK · TED DONALDSON · BOB HAYMES

Screen Play by Waldo Salt, George Corey, Louis Solomon

From the best-selling novel by THEODORE PRATT

Produced by JACK MOSS • Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

Free Movie Day, July 6th! Fighting 5th Climax!



Fifth War Loan Drive!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 56. NO. 3 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1944 TEN CENTS

British May Boost Quota Within Year

Wartime Percentages to Expire Next March

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, July 5.—Unless a new statutory order on film quota percentages is made and approved by both houses of Parliament before the end of December, the present wartime percentages will be dropped, next March, for distributors and in the following September for exhibitors, and the higher percentages prescribed by the 1938 quota act will again become effective, according to a long memorandum which the British Board of Trade is circulating this week to producers, distributors, exhibitors, trade unions and the Cinematograph Films Council.

The distributor percentages for feature pictures would go up from 20 to 27½ and the exhibitor percentages from 15 to 20½. For shorts, the present percentages are: distributors, 15; exhibitors, 12½.

In view of greatly increased war-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Davis Coming Here On Behalf of Rank

London, July 5. — John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres, Ltd., and one of J. Arthur Rank's right-hand men, will leave here shortly for Canada to explore the potentialities of an exhibitor tie-up there for the showing of Rank's films.

Following his Canadian visit, Davis will proceed to the United States to discuss Rank's interests with industry executives there and to work on Rank U. S. distribution and advertising plans.

Deny Prefect Motion; Will Now Appeal

NEW HAVEN, July 5.—Prefect Theatres' motion for a new trial of its $5,452,575 anti-trust suit against distributors was denied in Federal District Court here today by Judge Carroll Hincks, who took the case away from a jury on April 14 and handed down a verdict for the defense following 20 days of plaintiffs' testimony. The motion was supported by Saul Rogers, plaintiffs' counsel, at a hearing June 21 and opposed by defense counsel Joseph Berry.

Rogers, receiving the decision here, said the case would now be carried to the U. S. District Court of Appeals.

SEE GOOD CHANCE FOR NEW DECREE

Cancel All Trade Meets, ODT Asks

WASHINGTON, July 5.—Total abandonment of all trade conventions and meetings for at least the remainder of this year has been asked by Transportation Director J. M. Johnson in a letter sent out to the executives of all trade associations, it was learned here today.

Whereas, heretofore, the ODT has asked the suspension of all meetings not directly connected with the war, it is now asking for the calling off of even war-connected gatherings because of the burden imposed on the railroads by the invasion of Western Europe and the heavier load which will come when wounded men evacuated from the theatres of war must be carried in large numbers from ocean ports to military hospitals.

Transportation officials are gravely concerned over the situation because of the failure of the public to accede to admonitions and pleas to cut out non-essential travel, and are reported to be considering the imposition of priorities in the event conditions become critical. So far, this step has been avoided because of the difficulty of administering a priorities system.

But Biddle, Clark May Ask Further Minor Revisions

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, July 5.—U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle returned to his office here today after a prolonged absence from Washington but it was indicated that the pressure of other matters might prevent his consideration of the new industry consent decree proposals before Monday.



Tom Clark

Joseph Hazen, liaison between the Justice Department and the distributors, who has been on the West Coast, telephoned Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark today that he was

(*Continued on page 6*)

Mexican Films Get 50% of Gross: Gould

Mexican films represent 25 per cent of the total yearly release of product in that country, secure about 50 per cent of the available playing time in first and subsequent runs, and gross not less than 50 per cent of box office receipts, Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, declared in an interview at the home office here yesterday.

Mexican product received one-third

(*Continued on page 6*)

Set Services Today For J. S. MacLeod

Funeral services will be set today for J. S. MacLeod, 59, head of M-G-M film exchange maintenance, who was one of four killed Monday night in the Santa Fe train wreck near Williams, Ariz. MacLeod was on his way to Los Angeles from New York for M-G-M at the time of the accident. MacLeod will be buried in the family plot at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Scarsdale, N. Y.

MacLeod was born and educated in

(*Continued on page 6*)

U.S. Asks Exhibitors to Extend 5th Bond Drive

The Treasury Department has requested the motion picture industry to continue its war bond selling efforts through July, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry "Fighting Fifth" chairman, announced today, adding that all bonds sold through the extended period will be credited to the Fifth War Loan Drive.

Today is "Free Movie Day" in theatres throughout the nation. Theatres will admit free anyone who buys a War Bond. One of the greatest day's totals in "E" Bond sales is expected to be rolled up.

Coming at a time when it appears probable that the $16,000,000,000 quota will be reached by July 8, the Treasury's request has been made because requirements of the Government, due to the European invasion and the

(*Continued on page 3*)

RKO Again Waives Annual Meeting

RKO Radio Pictures will again waive an annual corporate meeting this year. The RKO subsidiary holds an election only when a change of officers is contemplated, and the list continues unchanged this year, headed by N. Peter Rathvon, chairman of the board; Ned E. Depinet, president; Charles W. Koerner, Gordon E. Youngman, Malcolm Kingsberg and Phil Reisman, vice-presidents; J. Miller Walker, secretary; William H. Clark, treasurer, and Garrett Van Wagner, comptroller.

RCA Enters Foreign Equipment Field

RCA Victor reports its entrance into the foreign theatre equipment field, immediate activities therein presumably depending entirely on availability of equipment. War curtailments will be lifted for the postwar.

J. M. Knaut, international manager of theatre equipment sales for RCA, explained that the growing demand overseas for a complete RCA

(*Continued on page 6*)

Paramount Election Today Uncertain

The Paramount board meeting for election of officers is scheduled today but enough members may not be back in New York from July 4 out of town trips to constitute a quorum, it was reported here yesterday at the home office and the session may be postponed to next Thursday.

All officers are scheduled for reelection. They are: Barney Balaban, president; Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board; Stanton Griffis, chairman

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

STANTON GRIFFIS, chairman of the Paramount executive committee, has returned from his mission to Sweden for the War Department, and visited at the Paramount home office yesterday with BARNEY BALABAN.

•

JOSEPH A. MCCONVILLE, Columbia's foreign vice-president, has returned to New York from England accompanied by JOE FRIEDMAN, the company's managing director in Great Britain. Another arrival at the home office was MICHAEL M. BERGHER, branch manager of Puerto Rico.

•

MORTON FRANK, formerly correspondent for QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS in Western Pennsylvania, now in the U. S. Naval Reserve, was married to AGNES A. DODDS of Pittsburgh at the Hampshire House here recently.

•

RUSS USWETSKY, head booker for the H. and E. Balaban Theatre Corp., Chicago, will vacation at a nearby summer resort the latter part of this month.

•

A. B. CRAVER, manager of the Visulite and Plaza theatres in Charlotte, N. C., is the father of a new son, JOHN CARROLL CRAVER, born to MRS. CRAVER recently.

•

D. CORBITT CURTIS, assistant director for *The March of Time,* is the father of a new daughter, MARY LOUISE CURTIS, born to MRS. CURTIS at Lenox Hill Hospital.

•

DAVE STERNFELD of 20th Century-Fox's art department reports the arrival of JOEL PETER on July 4 at Long Island College Hospital.

•

MR. and MRS. HARRY PICKETT, JR., booker and buyer for the S. W. Craver circuit, Charlotte, N. C., are the parents of a new daughter.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M production head for Great Britain, is en route back to London following a lengthy visit in New York and Hollywood.

•

SAM SEIDELMAN, United Artists Argentine manager and Latin-American supervisor, arrived in New York yesterday.

•

LOU GUIMOND, of the American Red Cross film theatre hospital and MRS. GUIMOND are in New York from Washington.

•

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount attorney, is away on an annual vacation.

Rennie Survives Mission

TORONTO, July 5.—Palmer Rennie, formerly of the Warner exchange here, was one of six survivors in a unit of the 48th Highlanders which cleared out a series of enemy pillboxes on the Hitler line in Italy, according to word received here this week via the Canadian Press.

War, Work Relieves Coast Relief Fund

HOLLYWOOD, July 5.—Petitions for aid from the Motion Picture Relief Fund were 1,254 fewer during 1943 than in 1942, due to increased employment in studios and war plants, according to executive secretary Wilma Bashor's report submitted to the membership at its 25th annual meeting. During 1943 the fund extended aid of one kind or another, ranging from professional counsel to major operations and hospitalization, in 6,168 cases aggregating ministration to 10,338 individuals.

Supported principally by donors who pledge one-half per cent of their earnings to the fund—the number of donors rose 3,266 to an aggregate of 10,641 during 1943—the organization closed its year with total assets of $1,609,741 and a net of $1,581,281, an increase of $229,700 over the previous year. Investment of $1,025,681 in U. S. Treasury Bonds, investment of $471,819 in the MPRF Country House, and $80,372 cash on hand constitute the assets.

Income from the Screen Guild Players' radio program sponsored by Lady Esther, Ltd., second largest source of financial support, amounted to $209,427 net, in 1943. Income from this source is devoted exclusively to maintenance of the Country House.

Other income reported by Treasurer George Bagnall included $152,318 received from Sol Lesser as the fund's share of proceeds from "Stage Door Canteen," which is expected to yield some $50,000 additionally as it plays off; $34,164 from the Community Chest, and $2,450 from the Theatre Authority.

Chicago Filing for 10% Exchange Raise

CHICAGO, July 5.—Sam Lamansky, business agent of Local B-45, IATSE here, reveals that the local's outline for a 10 percent raise for exchange employes has been forwarded to the New York offices of the distributors. As soon as a favorable report is received, Lamansky said, the new wage scale will be presented to the local office of the War Labor Board for official approval.

Pat Scollard, Paramount labor contact, stated here that distributors' attorneys were studying the Chicago request and indicated that approval would be forthcoming, although a decision had not yet been reached officially.

'Holiday' Sets New Criterion Record

A new all-time record for the Criterion theatre here was set by Universal's new Deanna Durbin picture, "Christmas Holiday," which grossed $45,700 in its first week at the theatre, the company stated yesterday. Previous record holder was Universal's "Gung Ho," which also topped $45,000 in one week but was several hundred dollars under the Durbin picture's gross.

BOT Finishes Its Film Probe

LONDON, July 5.—The committee appointed by the Board of Trade's Film Council to investigate alleged monopoly in the British industry has completed its prolonged inquiry and presented a report to the full council, which is now considering it prior to presentation to the BOT. Hugh Dalton, president of the board, will publish the recommendations soon, it has been learned.

The tenure of the present council will expire Aug. 20, and Dalton is asking the component trade groups to nominate their respective delegates for the ensuing three years. It is authoritatively understood that he wishes to improve the council's standing and proposes strengthening it through outside representation.

Sir Frederick Whyte, present chairman of the council, contemplates retirement, in which event 60-year-old Lord Drogheda, well-known Irish peer, will be appointed to succeed him. Drogheda, educated at Eton and Cambridge, served in the British Foreign Office before the last war and then in the Irish Guards. Later, following a law career, he became wartime director general of the Ministry of Economic Warfare.

Rank is certain to be appointed to the council as a producers' representative, which posts are now filled by Michael Balcon and F. A. Hoare. Other groups represented are distributors and employes.

Goldwyn 'Coup' to Be Aired in Parliament

LONDON, July 5.—The disclosure that Samuel Goldwyn holds the American and world distribution rights, outside the British colonies, of the Two Cities production, "The Way Ahead," has provoked perturbation in political circles and other places outside the industry, and a question as to the Goldwyn deal is expected to be raised in the House of Commons, it has been learned here.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 15, Two Cities is endeavoring to re-purchase the rights to the film, with Goldwyn having turned down a first offer and given no reaction to a second. He acquired the rights under the terms of a contract by which Lt. Col. David Niven, star of the picture and a Goldwyn contract player, was loaned to the British company. Niven was released from military duties to make the film, designated by the British War Office as an aid to public morale and as Army propaganda. It is reported that British authorities once rejected a suggestion that Washington be asked to seek to influence Goldwyn to relinquish the distribution rights in view of Niven's military status.

Soskin to Start

LONDON, July 5.—Paul Soskin, managing director of Soskin Productions, Ltd., has arrived here and revealed that he will start work "instantly" on a new film. He declined, however, to disclose the subject.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 5

CHARLES KOERNER, RKO production chief, and Perry Lieber, RKO studio publicity head, will leave here July 21 for the RKO convention in New York July 24-26.

•

King Vidor will leave for Mexico shortly to continue research for his next for M-G-M. After the war, he intends to make the story of wheat, thereby rounding out a trilogy he launched in 1924 with "The Big Parade." Second of the three is "An American Romance."

•

George Sidney, director at M-G-M, will do "Cabbages and Kings," which Joe Pasternak will produce with Jimmy Durante in the top role. The studio says the picture will be a musical with an "Alice in Wonderland" flavor.

•

Handshake deal whereby Gary Cooper will star in "Jubal Troop" for Sam Wood and Columbia release is off. Cooper's impending company under the International Pictures banner, prevents.

•

M. C. McIntyre, managing director for Universal in Australia, arrived today and entrained this evening for New York. He was accompanied by Al Daff, U's foreign sales supervisor.

•

Judy Garland is preparing for "The Clock," her first straight dramatic role which will go into work after the "Ziegfeld Follies." Arthur Freed will produce and Fred Zinnemann direct.

•

Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas, wife of Melvyn Douglas, will be one of the two women speakers at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

•

Thomas J. Connors, W. J. Kupper, Andy Smith, Jr., Jack Schlaifer, Maurice Silverstone and Francis Harley of 20th-Fox, arrived here tonight.

•

The War Finance Committee announced the Fox Studio's purchase of Fifth War Loan bonds to date is $1,250,000.

•

Francis Alstock of the CIAA planed in from Washington today, and will return there at the weekend.

No Decision on Loew Pension Until July 18

Loew's, Inc., is still open for bids from prospective underwriters of its employes' pension plan and will make no final decision until the stockholders' meeting July 18, it was learned here yesterday. So far, the bid of the Equitable Life Assurance Co. is the lowest received from a number of companies.

It is understood that the plan will cost Loew's and M-G-M approximately $3,500,000 for the first year, beginning March, 1944, and about $3,000,000 for each succeeding year.

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Depinet Cites 60 For Service to WAC

Sixty film exchange managers were cited over the weekend for their services as territorial distribution chairmen of the War Activities Committee's distributor division, of which Ned E. Depinet is chairman. Each will receive a plaque, inscribed in behalf of all WAC members with "appreciation for patriotic zeal beyond the call of duty."

A resolution adopted by the distributors' division provided that the distribution chairmen who served under William A. Scully in 1942 and those who served under William F. Rodgers in 1943 will receive the citations, provided they served at least six months. Present chairmen will receive them when they have completed their assignments.

Cited were: Joseph Miller, E. B. Price, Sydney Lehman, J. J. Donohue, Harry Young, James Hendel, R. J. Morrison, L. J. McGinley, George W. Fuller, Roger Mahan, E. V. Landaiche, R. B. Williams, J. H. Jacobs, William G. Mansell, Harry A. Seed, A. R. Anderson, Hall Walsh, S. J. Gardner, L. G. Wingham, Max Cohen.

Also: C. G. Eastman, W. O. Williamson, Fred, R. Dodson, I. H. Rogovin, Sydney Samson, J. H. Dillon, Clyde Eckhardt, Thomas R. Gilliam, J. J. Oulahan, I. J. Schmertz, S. M. Sachs, Chester J. Bell, Earl A. Bell, Mel H. Evidon, Frank J. Downey, G. Richard Frank, W. E. Truog, Wayne C. Ball, J. F. Willingham.

Also: J. H. Lorentz, L. J. Miller, Philip Sherman, Barney Pitkin, James Briant, Robert Wolff, C. H. Weaver, F. J. Hannon, Robert Lynch, J. J. Maloney, R. O. Wilson, Lester J. Bona, William F. Gordon, H. Neal East, Al Laurice, Edward A. Lamb, Robert Smeltzer, S. N. Wheeler, D. A. Levy, Len Gruenberg, Wm. Marriott.

ClearanceComplaint Filed, 1 Withdrawn

H. & H. Enterprises, Inc., operator of Keith's Theatre, Fairhaven, Mass., has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Keith's, which has first-run showings in Fairhaven, is subject to the following clearances over New Bedford, Mass., theatres: 14 days after the second-run Capitol, extended by Loew's; 14 days after Baylies Square, extended by RKO and Paramount; seven days after the Strand, extended by Warners; 14 days after the Rialto, by 20th-Fox. Baylies Square is second-run on RKO, third-run on Paramount, 20th-Fox and Warners; Strand is fourth-run on all, and the Rialto is third-run.

Complainant alleges that clearance is unreasonable and should be eliminated or reduced to a minimum of one day.

At the same time the American Arbitration Association reported that Ben Cooney, operator of the New Ogden theatre, Chicago, has withdrawn by general stipulation signed on July 3 by all parties, a clearance complaint against Paramount, Warners, 20th-Fox and RKO.

U.S. Asks Exhibitors to Extend 5th Bond Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

great progress being made in the Pacific and all other battlefronts, have been tremendously increased.

"This places an additional somber obligation on the home front to provide substantially more support to our boys in combat," O'Donnell said. "And because of the terrific effort being made in the combat areas there is a desire in every quarter to make this the greatest war financing job in the history of the world."

This development, O'Donnell added, changes the plan of the final report. "Instead of closing the records on July 8, as originally planned, they will be closed July 27," the statement said. The National Committee has had this subject up with every exhibitor state chairman, and all have volunteered to continue the effort.

Accordingly, the final report form will be sent to all participating exhibitors on or about July 20 to cover all bonds sold from June 1 through July 27. All exhibitors are requested to keep their records in good order until the closing date and to mail them to the national committee on the night of July 27, so that the entire drive can be cleaned up and a complete report subsequently made to the industry and the Secretary of the Treasury.

200,000 Attend Wash. 'Cavalcade' Opening

WASHINGTON, July 5.—More than 200,000 attended the opening of Washington's "Cavalcade of Freedom" on the Monument Grounds here last night, where scores of entertainers participated in a program under the direction of Sidney Lust, John J. Payette and Carter T. Barron.

Other committeemen included: Frank La Falce, William C. Ewing, Al Sherman, Charles Zurhost, Tom Baldridge, Henry Wall, Harry Anger, Gene Ford, Harry Krivit, Arch McDonald, A. Julian Brylawski, E. N. Read, Harry Bachman, Graham Barbee, Louis Bernheimer, Walter Corsley, Fred Kogod, Lawrence Snoots, Frank Storty, Lloyd Wineland, Hardi Meekin and Harry Lohmeyer.

RKO Houses Gross 2½ Million

"Bond Premieres" in 12 RKO Metropolitan New York theatres last week grossed $2,353,625, excluding regular sale of bonds in those houses.

'Wassell' Ahead of DeMille's Runs:

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" is running ahead of other Cecil B. DeMille pictures, according to Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, and based on reports from several spots where the film has opened.

At the Rivoli, New York, the fourth week's gross was 20 per cent higher than "Wake Island." In the first three weeks at the Paramount, Hollywood, "Wassell" did 15 per cent more than "Reap the Wild Wind." At the Paramount, Los Angeles, "Wassell" in its first three weeks did 82 per cent more than "Reap the Wild Wind."

Warner Exchanges Set Bookers' Drive

First of a series of Warner exchange meetings to set plans for "Bookers' Month" in August was held yesterday at the New York branch, with Norman Ayers, Eastern district manager, presiding. Clarence Eiseman, New York branch manager, and Arthur Weinberg, office manager, also addressed the gathering.

This year's campaign, running through August, will stress "The Adventures of Mark Twain," released on July 22, and "Mr. Skeffington," August 12, in addition to the current re-release of Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," "Destination, Tokyo," "Watch on the Rhine," "Old Acquaintance" and other product.

USJCC Names Baldridge

WINCHESTER, Va., July 5—Tom Baldridge, M-G-M representative in this area, has returned from Omaha, where he attended the annual war conference of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce and where he was named to raise $100,000 for a USJCC national headquarters building.

Smith and Schreiber Honored by Schwartz

CHICAGO, July 5.—Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO's out-of-town theatres, honored Frank Smith and Harry Schreiber, newly-appointed division and assistant division managers, respectively, of the Chicago territory at a press party at the Bismarck Hotel today. Smith, manager of the Palace here, succeeded Tom Gorman, who resigned due to ill health. Gorman will remain in town for a rest before returning East.

Schwartz expects to appoint a new Palace manager as well as a new city manager of Columbus, a post vacated by Schreiber, upon his return to New York Saturday.

$234,000 for 'Way'

CHICAGO, July 5.—Paramount's "Going My Way," starring Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald, goes into its fifth week at the Chicago Theatre here on Friday, the first picture to run longer than four weeks in the 26-year history of that house. The film will have grossed an estimated $234,000 by the end of the week. Only two other pictures have run four weeks at the Chicago, those being Paramount's "She Done Him Wrong" and "Road to Morocco."

20th-Fox Transfers

CHICAGO, July 5.—Tommy Thompson, head of the Kansas City publicity office for 20th-Fox has been transferred to the Chicago office to succeed Jay Frank, who was moved into the Kansas City territory, it was announced by Jules Fields, assistant exploitation manager. Fields is here over the weekend to map a publicity campaign for "Wilson," with Fred Joyce, newly appointed national exploitation man.

Course Offered in Employe Training

ST. LOUIS, July 5.—A free, tax-supported course in "How to Teach An Employe" is being offered to theatre executives by state and local boards of education, according to Francis Wright, director of the Distributive Education Department of the St. Louis board.

Wright has just given such a course, in six two-hour sessions, to 16 staff members of the Fox, Missouri, Shubert and St. Louis Theatres here, through arrangements with Tony Peluso, manager of the Fox for Fanchon and Marco, who pioneered the movement.

Developed by the U. S. Office of Education, the plan, Wright explains, was worked out at this time of rapid manpower turnover because "executives often know the job so well that when they teach a new employe they overlook and fail to demonstrate the simple but basic parts of the job."

$2,500,000 DuMont Television Orders

Postwar orders for television equipment in the amount of $2,500,000 have been received by the Allen B. DuMont Laboraotries, Inc., Paramount affiliate, under a newly established "equipment reservation plan," Leonard Cramer, vice-president of the company, discloses. Orders for an additional $1,500,000 worth of equipment are said to be pending.

Under the plan, complete equipment for the operation of television stations will be delivered to customers in the order of application. Some $256,000 will be required to equip each station, and 10 deals so far have been closed. Formal purchase contracts are to be signed within 90 days after the Government permits civilian manufacture to resume.

Commercial Tele. Plan for Theatres

LOS ANGELES, July 5.—John W. Swallow, NBC program director in Hollywood for the past 12 years, today announced Television Enterprises, Inc., to produce advertising films for use under prevailing conditions and in anticipation of the development of television.

Swallow told MOTION PICTURE DAILY he will not invade the entertainment field as a producer or otherwise, apart from the extent to which theatres now use paid advertising films, but will concentrate on servicing in improved fashion those advertisers now using the screen medium. Swallow said that arrangements had been made with three existing cartoon producing organizations for actual production, but did not reveal any names. He plans a trip to New York shortly to "show our wares" to prospective advertising clients.

'Brown' to Music Hall

International Pictures' "Casanova Brown," starring Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright, will follow M-G-M's "Dragon Seed" into the New York Music Hall after the latter succeeds the current "Once Upon a Time." Nunnally Johnson produced and Sam Wood directed the Leo Spitz-William Goetz production.

WINCHELL'S FOR SUMMER

1.

Walter Winchell says in the N.Y. Mirror:
(and syndicate)

"Theatres that exhibit THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS can turn off their cooling systems."



"THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS" with SYDNEY GREENSTREET · ZACHARY SCOTT · FAYE EMERS

NEVER STOP TILL YOU'RE OVER THE TOP! FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!

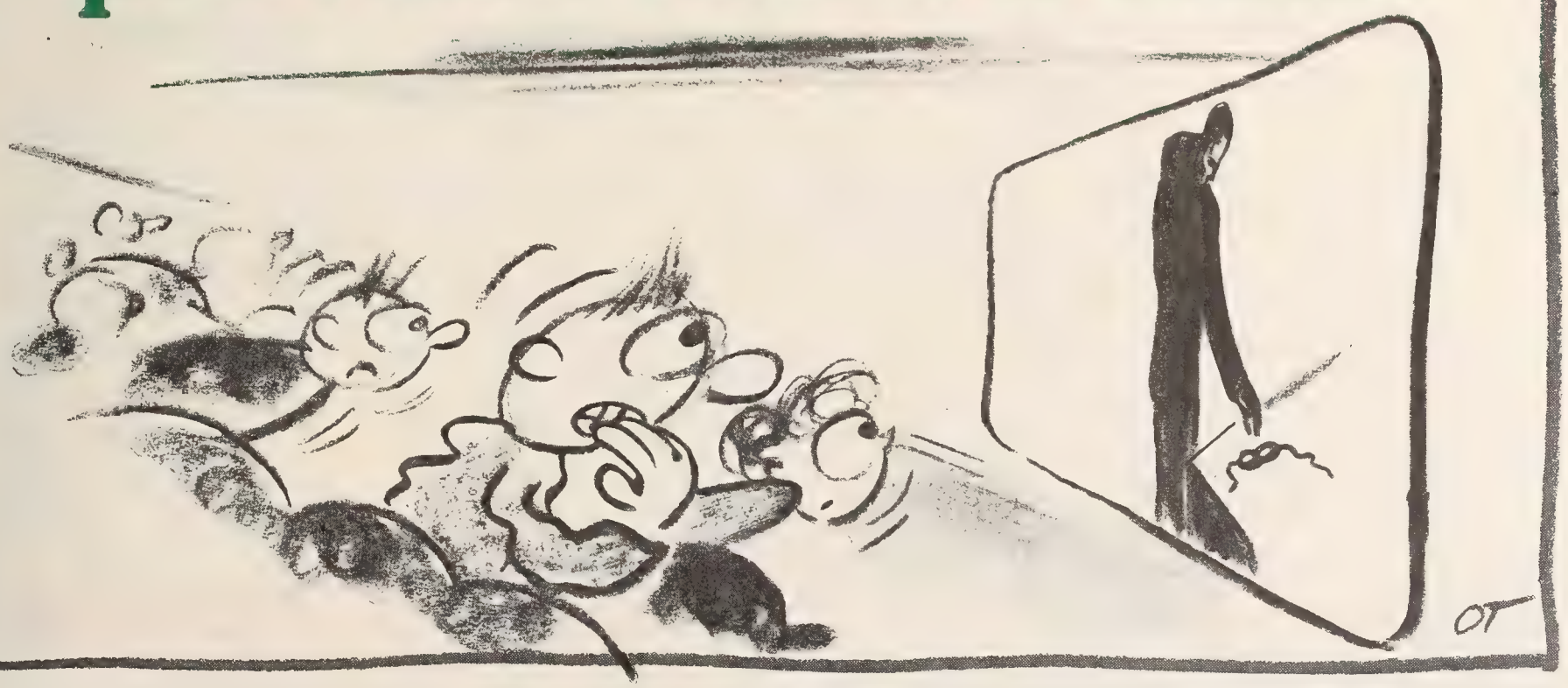
INVENTION OPERATION:

2.

"Because", *says Walter Winchell,*

"THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS

provides its own chills!"



PETER LORRE · VICTOR FRANCEN ·

Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • Screen Play by Frank Gruber • From a Novel by Eric Ambler

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer • Produced by HENRY BLANKE

Capital Sees Good Chance For Decree

(*Continued from page* 1)

available for consultation, but Clark said they probably would not get together again until after the Attorney General has made a decision as to the acceptability of the companies' proposals as they now stand.

While Department officials refused to indicate the possible fate of the decree proposals, there is a growing impression in some quarters based on recent developments in Washington and New York that there is a good chance of a consent decree being accepted by the Government, although possibilities are seen that acceptance will be conditioned on some further changes in the distributors' proposals. For the most part, is believed these changes will come within the limits of what company spokesmen recently said were the economic limits beyond which they could not go and will offer no barrier if the companies definitely desire a decree as an alternative to a court fight. So far as could be learned none of the more important provisions would be affected in major degree.

The whole situation will be laid before the Attorney General by Clark when an opportunity for a conference arises. At that meeting the Assistant Attorney General is expected to suggest the policy to be followed and upon the approval of his position, which is expected to be given by Biddle, will go into session with Hazen or top company officials to work out details.

Set Services Today For J. S. MacLeod

(*Continued from page* 1)

New York City. He entered the film business in 1915 as assistant auditor for the old Sawyer Films Co. Six months later he joined Metro here in the accounting department under Charles K. Stern. In 1929, he was appointed head of the film and exchange maintenance for M-G-M.

Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Ida MacLeod, who was in San Francisco at the time of the accident; a son, Donald S., office manager of M-G-M's Indianapolis branch; two brothers, David R. and Ross P., the latter in charge of M-G-M's warehouse in New York; a sister, Mrs. W. Thuman of the Bronx.

Mimi Forsythe, actress, suffered a broken wrist and other injuries in the wreck of the Santa Fe Chief. She is the wife of United Artists producer Benedict Bogeaus.

Feinbergs' Mother Dies

Funeral services will be held here this morning at Riverside Memorial Chapel for Mrs. Louis Feinberg, 87, mother of Abe and Joe Feinberg of the Comerford circuit vaudeville booking department, New York.

Mexican Films Get 50% of Gross: Gould

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the playing time in 11 such houses with less than one-quarter of the total releases in 1943-44, he said. They secured 40 per cent of the revenue in these houses. "American pictures will make money notwithstanding inroads by native films," said UA's foreign manager.

Gould inferred that American companies were taking to dubbing in Spanish in order to secure better playing time to offset improved native product. His company's dubbing program is up to individual producers who, on the whole, are receptive to a dubbing program, he said. Such great strides have been made in the technique of dubbing in French and Italian that "it may not be long before all pictures are dubbed automatically."

Pictures will have to be tailor-made for foreign markets for "competition in the post-war from many native film industries springing up where they were non-existent," he said.

Many of our self-maligning films, he added, have been accepted by the masses of foreign countries as a true reflection of American life. Some countries have even gone to the extent of banning films which have deflated American institutions or have handled the American Army in an irreverent light through presentation of an individual, fearing that their people would adopt these ideas.

Gould revealed, as previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY that Dudley Murphy, who has a deal with UA to deliver four Mexican pictures in two years, has completed the first, "The Bell of My Village."

British May Boost Quota Within Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

time labor costs, the BOT also suggests that upward revision in prewar labor cost test figures may be necessitated. The 1938 act, treating labor cost as a rough measure of a film's quality, postulated that films ranking for quota should expend a minimum of one pound (about four dollars) per foot on labor.

It is understood authoritatively that the BOT favors retention of present percentages for another two years on the assumption that the German war may end within six months and allowing the ensuing year for the studios to requisition new equipment and reservice that which is badly worn. Full scale production is envisioned as a possibility for 1946. The Board also favors increasing the labor cost test figures to 25 shillings (about five dollars) per foot.

RCA Enters Foreign Equipment Field

(*Continued from page* 1)

line is responsible for the new policy. The equipment which will be supplied through RCA's own international subsidiaries and its distributors will include projectors, screens, power supply apparatus, arc lamps, chairs and accessories, in addition to RCA sound reproducing systems, which the company has marketed abroad.

Boston Gives 'Date' Dual Fine $36,000

BOSTON, July 5.—"Blind Date" and "Seven Days Ashore" at the RKO Boston brought a startling $36,000, greatest since the appearance there of Frank Sinatra. "Going My Way" in its third week at the Paramount took a capacity $18,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 5.:

"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
"Blind Date" (Col.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,200) (55c-65c-75c-$1.10) Gross: $36,000. (Average: $25,800).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
FENWAY—(1,373) (40c-55c-74c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,800).
"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,350) ($1.10) 8th week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $10,000).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)
MEMORIAL — (2,900) (40c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,800).
"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) 7 days, 2nd week (40c-55c-65c-85c). Gross: $24,900. (Average: $28,300).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
ORPHEUM — (2,900) (40c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $23,800).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-55c-65c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,700).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
STATE—(3,200) (40c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,300).
"Two Man Sub" (Col.)
TRANS LUX—(990) (30c-55c-74c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).

Ideal Weather Keeps Toronto at Par

TORONTO, July 5.—Instead of flocking to the shows for a statutory holiday, Dominion Day, July 1, most people swarmed to the countryside for the long weekend and exhibitors said it was the quietest festive occasion in years. "Pin Up Girl" was luring $12,800 to Shea's Theatre; "Gaslight" was holding up to $12,700 for the second week at Loew's, and "Snow White" pointed to $12,300 at the Imperial with an early rush of juveniles.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 6:

"Lost Angel" (M-G-M)
"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).
"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $11,200).
"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,800).
"Cover Girl" (Col.)
"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $4,400).
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $9,800).

Paramount Election Today Uncertain

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the executive committee; Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Leonard H. Goldenson, John W. Hicks, Jr., Austin C. Keough and Charles M. Reagan, vice-presidents; Walter B. Cokell, treasurer; Keough, secretary; Norman Collyer, Jacob H. Karp and Frank Meyer, assistant secretaries, and Fred Mohrhardt, comptroller.



PREVIEW

OF THE MAGAZINE THAT KEEPS ON GIVING ITS READERS MORE TEXT, MORE COLOR THAN ANY *OTHER* MAGAZINE IN THE FIELD.

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August

ADVANCE COPY



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BY PAUL HESSE

A story from
the heart of
GREER GARSON
by
Louella O. Parsons

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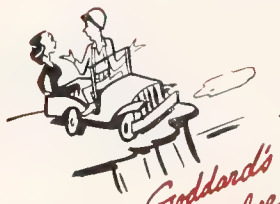
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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
June 10	THEY LIVE IN FEAR Otto Kruger Pat Parrish Clifford Severn D—65 mins. (5043)	**(Seventh Block)** ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)	SONORA STAGE COACH (Trailblazer) O—(365)	**(Fifth Block)** AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)	WATERFRONT John Carradine J. Carroll Naish D—(415) 65 mins.		**(Fifth Block)** THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale D—64 mins. (421)		THE HAIRY APE William Bendix Susan Hayward D—90 mins.	THE INVISIBLE MAN'S REVENGE Jon Hall Evelyn Ankers Alan Curtis D—78 mins.	MAKE YOUR OWN BED Jack Carson Jane Wyman Irene Manning C—82 mins. (317)
June 17	THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills "Dub" Taylor O—(5208)	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425)				GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART Robert Livingston Ruth Terry D—67 mins. (302)	DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck D—86 mins. (422) THE YELLOW CANARY (British) Anna Neagle Richard Greene D—84 mins. (423)	(June Releases—no definite date set) EVE OF ST. MARK Anne Baxter William Eythe Michael O'Shea (429) D—96 mins.	FORTY THIEVES Wm. Boyd Andy Clyde Jimmy Rogers O—60 mins.	GHOST CATCHERS Olsen and Johnson Gloria Jean C—68 mins.	
June 24	SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Jess Barker D—67 mins. (5040)	MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427)	RETURN OF THE APE MAN Bela Lugosi John Carradine D	HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322)	MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—(404)	YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—(343) 69 mins.	SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Gordon Oliver C—74 mins. (424)	LADIES OF WASHINGTON Sheila Ryan Trudy Marshall Doris Merrick D—95 mins (430)	SENSATIONS OF 1945 Eleanor Powell Dennis O'Keefe M—85 mins.	SOUTH OF DIXIE Anne Gwynne David Bruce D—61 mins.	THIS IS THE ARMY (Re-issue) George Murphy Joan Leslie M—(224) 115 mins. (Color)
July 1		TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)	RANGE LAW Johnny Mack Brown O—57 mins (355)	GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—(404)	MAN FROM FRISCO Michael O'Shea D—91 mins. (318)	SHOW BUSINESS Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore M—92 mins. (425)			CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Deanna Durbin Gene Kelly M—93 mins.	THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS Peter Lorre Sidney Greenstreet Zachary Scott D—95 mins. (318)
July 8	LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter C	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE Simone Simon James Ellison D—79 mins.		DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—(416)	CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS D—59 mins. (319) MARSHALL OF RENO Wild Bill Elliott O—56 mins. (3312)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.		SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell D—107 mins.	TRIGGER TRAIL O—(8086) JUNGLE WOMAN Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins. THE MUMMY'S GHOST Lon Chaney D—61 mins.	(Re-issues) MANPOWER 103 mins. (341) TIGER SHARK 79 mins. (345) THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL 92 mins. (342) THE WALKING DEAD 66 mins. (344) BROTHER RAT 89 mins. (343) POLO JOE 65 mins. (346)
July 15	SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins.	**(Eighth Block)** (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (Color) CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins.	ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot D—73 mins.	**(Sixth Block)** HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins.	FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—(465) SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH D—(417)	COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN (reissue) Gene Autry O—(3305) SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane O—55 mins. (461)	GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426) MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427) A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)				
July 22			THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins.			STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429)	(July Releases—no definite date set)		TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin O—62 mins.	
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D		MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson O CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins.	BRAND OF THE DEVIL O—(458) MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida C—(421)	SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD Edgar Barrier Stephanie Bachelor C. Aubrey Smith D—68 mins. (321)	YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe	ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins.	(Regular Release) ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
Aug. 5			LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins.		SONG OF NEVADA Roy Rogers D—75 mins. (399)	(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)			
Aug. 12	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D		OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Jean Parker Edmund Loew D	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins.		GIRL WHO DARED Lorna Gray D—56 mins. (322)	SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)		TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 19	DEATH WALKS ALONE Rose Hobart Eric Rolf					PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor Richard Powers D—58 mins. (324)					

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses



"Okay, Mr. Exhibitor, I've made a Short Subject about movie pests and how they annoy the audience. It's all in fun but it's a message every showman has wanted to get over to the customers for years!"



PETE SMITH

answers the exhibitors' prayers with M-G-M's

"MOVIE PESTS"

A MERRY "MUST" FOR EVERY THEATRE!

Charles P. Skouras, President National Theatres:
"One of the best subjects you have ever produced...packed with laughs...as far as I am concerned, this reel is a MUST!"

Hedda Hopper, Columnist:
"I've never heard so many laughs in such a short film."

Besa Short, Interstate Circuit shorts chief:
"Destined to be one of the important film properties of this or any other age."

Terry Ramsaye, Editor of Motion Picture Herald:
"This picture says something that every exhibitor has had on his mind since movies were born."

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924-1944 MGM

ANNIVERSARY SHORT FOR LONG RUNS!

Keep selling those war bonds! Fight by the side of the troops who never stop!

Fifth War Loan Drive!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep Backing the Invasion!

VOL. 56. NO. 4 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1944 TEN CENTS

New Building Code Threat To Theatres

Drastic Changes Studied By Heads of Circuits

Circuit managements in New York are described as being 'alarmed" over New York State's new pending building code with its threatening drastic changes, involving considerable structural alterations, and applying to most of the 1,200 motion picture theatres in places which have no code; it does not apply to cities which already have codes.

The threat is of significance not only to exhibitors in New York State, but is greatly broadened by the fact that New York building codes are widely referred to by authorities in

(*Continued on page* 11)

Argentine Lagging, Seidelman Reports

Argentina is the only country in Latin-America where film business has failed to improve commensurate with that of other countries, Sam Seidelman, United Aritists Argentine manager and Latin-American supervisor, said yesterday in an interview at the home office. Seidelman, who is making his first visit to the home office in four years, attributed this situation to poor exploitation and the playing of triple and even quadruple features.

Native producers, whose yearly production output amounts to 35 to 40 features a year, are at odds with exhibitors on the total playing time to be accorded their product and have urged adoption of a quota law, Seidelman said. They are demanding one-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Wm. Fox on National Tour 'Very Shortly'

William Fox will "leave shortly" on his projected tour of the country to look over possible key-city exchange sites for his proposed new producing-distributing company. A contemplated trip to Latin America for the same purpose will not take place for some time, Fox indicated here yesterday.

Still not ready to make public any organizational or financial details of

(*Continued on page* 11)

Robots Hit Studio; Saloman Killed

London, July 6.—One studio (unidentified) was heavily damaged by a recent Nazi 'Robot Bomb' attack in which three studio people were killed and two were injured. Production, however, is proceeding at all other studios.

Only a few theatres have been damaged by the Robots, which Prime Minister Churchill described to Commons today as having killed 2,752 and hospitalized 8,000, London suffering most of the casualities.

Warners' New York office received word yesterday of the death, 'by enemy action in Southern England,' of A. M. (Doc.) Saloman, for 12 years general manager of the Warner Teddington, Eng. studio.

Horowitz Vanguard Sales Executive

Sam Horowitz, formerly with United Artists and the A. H. Blank circuit of Des Moines, will join the executive sales staff of Vanguard Films, Inc., and David O. Selznick Enterprises, effective July 15. Working under Neil Agnew, vice-president in charge of distribution, Horowitz will have headquarters in Chicago.

The appointment fills the post of one of the two additional Vanguard sales executives which Agnew authorized at the company's sales meeting in Chicago last week, as reported in Motion Picture Daily on June 28. The other appointment is expected to be made in the near future.

U. S. INTERVENES IN GOLDMAN CASE

MGM Endeavors to Resume Blocks of 12, Rodgers Says

M-G-M will endeavor to resume the release of pictures in blocks of 12 to comply with what it recognizes as the preference of the majority of exhibitors, William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, said at a luncheon of company officials and trade press representatives at the Hotel Astor here yesterday.



William F. Rodgers

Early this season the company released several groups of pictures ranging from seven to 12 in number but subsequent blocks

(*Continued on page* 12)

Films May Attend World Trade Talks

At least one top film industry representative will be nominated by the National Association of Manufacturers as a delegate to the International Business Conference at Atlantic City,

(*Continued on page* 12)

Files to Re-open Trust Suit, Says Issues Are Same as Consent Decree

Philadelphia, July 6.—The United States Government today filed a petition in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here for permission to enter the Anti-Trust Case of William Goldman, independent circuit head, as an *amicus curae* (friend of the court).

Goldman's suit for $1,650,000 damages against the Warner Theatre Circuit and the major distributors was not sustained by the U. S. District Court and William Gray, attorney for Goldman, had filed an appeal from the decision of the lower court.

The Government in its petition to enter the case indicated that Goldman's suit involved the same situations as those in the Department of

(*Continued on page* 11)

Sears Calls UA Meeting

The first of two United Artists sales meetings will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria here on Monday and Tuesday, July 10-11, Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of Distribution, and Carl Leserman, U.A. general sales manager, announced yesterday.

The meeting will be attended by all district and branch managers from the eastern territories. Leserman will preside at the meeting which will be highlighted by a general discussion of the company's sales policies and announcement of new product. The second meeting will be for company

(*Continued on page* 12)

Will Hays on Coast, Johnston Yarn 'Old'

Los Angeles, July 6.—By indirection, Will Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association of America, on his arrival here today, refuted the revived reports that Eric Johnston, president of The United States Chamber of Commerce, would enter the motion picture industry, replacing him (Hays) as president of the MPPDA. The interview was conducted at the headquarters of the MPPDA.

The Johnston report was revived

(*Continued on page* 11)

$72,670,000 Bond Sale By Hollywood Star Tours

A total of $72,670,000 in war bonds, mostly of the "E" series, is credited to the Hollywood stars who toured 19 cities and made 23 appearances on behalf of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, R. J. O'Donnell, national industry Bond chairman, and the U. S. War Finance Committee, announced here yesterday. Agencies ranged between 4,200 to 80,000.

The shows were built around the Army Air Forces Training Command orchestra of Ft. Worth, which replaced the Army Air Forces band conducted by Capt. Glenn Miller after the first two appearances. The orchestra was conducted by Sergeant Harry Bluestone, formerly with the Paramount studios in Hollywood, with Capt. Robert Jennings as commandant. Paul Whiteman, Benny Goodman and Fred Waring were guest conductors.

Stars who toured included Gary Cooper, Ingrid Bergman, Veronica

(*Continued on page* 11)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH SEIDELMAN, Universal vice-president in charge of foreign distribution; AL DAFF, foreign sales supervisor, and FORTUNAT BARONAT, foreign publicity director, returned here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

PFC. HOWARD Z. BEATUS, son of LAWRENCE BEATUS, Loew district manager, is serving in Normandy with the European Civil Affairs Regiment.

•

SAM COHEN, United Artists foreign publicity director, this week celebrated his 44th birthday with a surprise party given by MRS. COHEN at their home in Mt. Vernon.

•

LEON GOLDBERG, RKO Radio studio executive, will leave for the Coast today after a visit of several weeks in New York.

•

STANLEY R. CHASE, assistant to OSCAR MORGAN at Paramount, reports the birth of a daughter.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warners playdate department, will return today from New Haven.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, will observe his 42nd birthday on Saturday.

•

HANK LINET of Universal left yesterday for Cincinnati and Dayton.

Beute Quits as PRC Production Manager

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Chris Beute has resigned as general production manager of PRC Pictures and stated that he will announce a new affiliation in the near future. Formerly with Monogram, Beute joined PRC in 1943.

Leon Fromkess, PRC vice-president in charge of production, here for the company's annual sales convention, which was held last week, said yesterday that a successor to Beute would be appointed following his return to the Coast, where he will arrive on July 23.

Two 50c Dividends On Universal Stock

Universal's board of directors yesterday declared a third-quarter dividend of 50 cents per share on the company's stock, payable July 31 to stockholders of record July 19; also, for the fourth quarter, a dividend of the same amount, payable Oct. 31 to stockholders of record Oct. 16.

Ben Goetz in London

LONDON, July 6.—Ben Goetz, in charge of M-G-M production in Great Britain, has arrived here from a lengthy visit in New York and Hollywood.

Mexican Copyright Law Under Survey

A survey of the Mexican copyright law with the aim of making suggestions for amendments which would remove present difficulties in the distribution of American films in that country will be undertaken in Mexico City July 31-Aug. 8 by Edwin P. Kilroe, chairman of the copyright committee of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

Kilroe's suggestions will be made during the same visit, at the third annual meeting of the Inter-American Bar Association, at which he has been named to represent the industry in sessions relating to copyright and intellectual and industrial property. He was appointed and received survey instructions at a meeting of the MPPDA committee here this week.

Horne Heads Public Information Group

Hal Horne, 20th-Fox director of advertising-publicity, yesterday was elected chairman of the industry's Public Information Committee, Eastern section, for the next six months, succeeding Silas F. Seadler, M-G-M advertising manager. Glendon Allvine continues as executive secretary, only other officer of the committee.

A plan for future industry public relations work was presented at yesterday's meting by Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, based on conclusions reached during his recent tour of 20 cities. The committee took the plan under advisement and will announce details if and when final approval is forthcoming.

Mirisch, Mandel to Chicago Meeting

Harold Mirisch, chief of RKO Theatres' film booking department; Harry Mandel, director of advertising-publicity, and William Howard, assistant to Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO's out-of-town theatres, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

All three will attend an RKO managers meeting which Schwartz has called for in the Chicago division. Frank Smith, newly appointed division manager, and his assistant, Harry Schreiber, will be introduced to the gathering. Following the meeting, Mirisch will continue on to Hollywood.

Paramount Election Postponed a Week

The Paramount board of director's meeting to elect officers was postponed from yesterday until next Thursday afternoon because a quorum was not available. Barney Balaban, president, Adolph Zukor, chairman, and all other officers are scheduled to be reelected.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 6

RKO-RADIO has signed William Pereira as an associate producer. Pereira, who resigned from a Hunt Stromberg co-producership to take the post, was David O. Selznick's production designer for three years inclusive of his work on "Since You Went Away."

•

The War Finance Committee revealed Republic Studio's corporate purchase of bonds in the Fifth War Loan Drive to date is $180,000, while the purchase of the allied industries now total $259,000. The Screen Actors Guild purchased $50,000 in bonds.

•

Harold Hopper will plane to Washington Sunday, thence to New York on Motion Picture Society for the Americas business, returning here prior to his departure late in the month for a South American tour.

•

Jack Skirball announced "Fickle Fortune," as Fred Allen's starring vehicle, with production starting Sept. 1. Allen is due here July 16 on story finalities.

•

Howard Da Silva will return to New York upon completion of his role in Paramount's "Two Years Before the Mast."

•

Jorege Negrete, president of the Mexican Actors' Guild, has left here by plane for Mexico City today.

•

Pine-Thomas' first 1944-45 picture for Paramount will be "Dangerous Passage."

Skouras, Others Due Back on Wednesday

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Spyros Skouras, president, and other 20th-Fox executives who are here from New York to see "Wilson" and discuss forthcoming product, are scheduled to be back at their New York offices next Wednesday.

Skouras was accompanied here by Tom Connors, Murray Silverstone, William J. Kupper, Francis Harley, L. J. Schlaifer, A. W. Smith and Sam Shain. Larry Kent, executive assistant to Skouras, is also here.

Columbia Executives To Coast Meeting

Columbia home office executives will leave New York today for San Francisco for the third and last of its series of sales meetings, to be held July 11-13 at the St. Francis Hotel. In the group will be Jack Cohn, A. Montague, Rube Jackter, George Josephs, H. C. Kaufman, Jos. A. McConville and Joe Friedman.

Six branches will be represented at the convention by the District Manager, branch managers and the salesmen from Denver, Los Angeles, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT in
"ONCE UPON A TIME"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing
'SENSATIONS OF 1945'
STARRING
ELEANOR POWELL
IN PERSON
GRACIE BARRIE
BENNY RUBIN

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

JULES LEVEY PRESENTS
William Bendix — Susan Hayward
IN
"THE HAIRY APE"
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS
AIR CONDITIONED
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 46th ST. GLOBE

20th Century-Fox Presents
'HOME IN INDIANA'
IN TECHNICOLOR
PLUS ON STAGE — ENRIC MADRIGUERA and ORCHESTRA • HAZEL SCOTT
JOE BESSER • CARMEN AMAYA & CO.
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

FILM CLASSICS
DEAD END
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 47 ST GOTHAM
Eddie CANTOR—
KID FROM SPAIN
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
MAURER'S B'WAY & 46 ST. VICTORIA

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20th Century-Fox

presents

the most important event in the 50 years

of motion picture entertainment!





Not even its 12,000 players

...its 2 years in the making

...its 200 mighty sets...

can remotely convey a conception of

its vastness... its immensity

...its overwhelming greatness.







Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSON

DIRECTED BY HENRY KING

Written for the Screen by LAMAR TROTTI

in Technicolor







The biggest figure in the industry

20th CENTURY-FOX

presents the biggest boxoffice entertainment !

Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

ALEXANDER KNOX • CHARLES COBURN • GERALDINE FITZGERALD • THOMAS MITCHELL • RUTH NELSON • SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • VINCENT PRICE • WILLIAM EYTHE • MARY ANDERSON

and

RUTH FORD • SIDNEY BLACKMER • MADELEINE FORBES • STANLEY RIDGES • EDDIE FOY, Jr. • CHARLES HALTON • THURSTON HALL • J. M. KERRIGAN • JAMES RENNIE • KATHERINE LOCKE • STANLEY LOGAN MARCEL DALIO • EDWIN MAXWELL • CLIFFORD BROOKE • TONIO SELWART • JOHN INCE • CHARLES MILLER

Directed by HENRY KING • Written for the Screen by LAMAR TROTTI

PRINTED IN

Argentine Lagging, Seidelman Reports

(Continued from page 1)

third first-run playing time, and 50 per cent in other situations. Exhibitors have refused to accede to these demands, declaring that they would rather turn over their theatres to the government.

UA's Argentine manager stated the better classes prefer American films. Seidelman cited last year's ratio of American and Argentine pitcures in Buenos Aires first-runs. Argentine films secured 20 per cent of playing time, American films, 70 per cent, and the remainder was reserved for French and Mexican product. No British product is being shown. In the lesser situations Argentine product obtains a good deal of playing time, however.

Native producers also are demanding a minimum of 40 per cent of all box office receipts for their films, Seidelman revealed.

En route home, UA's manager stopped off at Bogata, Colombia, where he supervised the reconditioning of the Astral Theatre, there for the opening of "Jack London." UA has taken over operation of the Astral, this being the third house it has obtained in Laint-America. Other theatre properties are being scouted for possible operation, but nothing is immediately in prospect, he said.

Seidelman will return to Buenos Aires in about a month via the Coast and Mexico.

Wm. Fox on National Tour 'Very Shortly'

(Continued from page 1)

his new company, Fox, who opened New York offices in April, stating then that a nationwide trip would be made in the near future, plans to give territorial product franchises and first choice locally on all product to exhibitors who buy stock in his company. His project calls for a worldwide distribution system, administered in Hollywood, but the field work on the foreign set-up has been delayed because, as Fox said yesterday, "You can't get to Latin America now."

Will Hays on Coast, Johnston Yarn 'Old'

(Continued from page 1)

here earlier in the week, but it was indicated it was an "old" story.

In a brief statement Hays declared that the current trip was his usual July-August visit, and had no "special significance."

ITOA Elects 1st Female

Miss Jeanne Ansell, manager of the Manhattan Theatre, here, was elected to membership yesterday by the Independent Theatre Owners Association, meting at the Hotel Astor. The next ITOA meeting will be held early in August at the Portchester, N. Y. home of Harry Brandt, ITOA president, with members and wives invited.

Robinson in London

LONDON, July 6.—Edward G. Robinson has arrived here to play the part of a U. S. flying instructor in a Royal Air Force feature tentatively entitled "Aircrew." A majority of the cast will be RAF personnel, most of whom were prewar professional players.

Theatres Are Threatened By New Building Code

(Continued from page 1)

many other states in drawing up building regulations.

Motion Picture Herald, in disclosing the danger of severe operational interruptions to potentially hundreds of theatres, will say today that, if enacted, the New York code "would have the practical effect, in many instances, of closing small theatres permanently."

Aroused by the changes, drawn up under the authority of the New York Labor Department as more stringent safety measures, some of the principal circuits in New York, including Loew's, Paramount, RKO, Century, Schine and Skouras, have appointed a committee to seek modification of the proposals. The committee, headed by Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and including Henry Anderson of Paramount and Louis Lazar of Schine Theatres, with Martin J. Tracy of Century, as alternate, this week began studies upon which to base argument for reconsideration.

Provisions in the revised regulations which have caused most immediate concern are:

Every theatre with a stage must have a fire curtain of steel frame with the necessary automatic lowering devices. This would have to be done within one year of the date the code went into effect in existing as well as new theatres.

Emergency stairways (fire escapes) higher than 10 feet must be enclosed by fireproof construction (stair towers). Counterbalanced fire escapes attached to the building outside are prohibited.

In general, the revised code would require compliance by existing theatres within two years from the date of its adoption.

According to J. Henry Walters, RKO attorney and former New York State Senator, who was instrumental in bringing the proposed New York regulations to the attention of theatre interests, several other states have been re-examining their building regulations in consequence of the Coconut Grove night club fire in Boston in 1942.

"There is great danger," Walters said, "that if the proposed New York requirements are allowed to stand, they will be adopted elsewhere. Such requirements as a steel proscenium curtain, and inside stair towers in place of fire escapes, would put many theatres out of business."

Failure to distinguish between motion picture theatres making only limited and rare use of a stage or screen platform and those presenting regular stage performances is cited as one aspect of a general defect of the revised code, which in the main, classifies motion picture theatres with night clubs and road houses in its treatment of safety problems. Practical separation of theatres from buildings of entirely different function and physical character, and of motion picture from stage or combination theatres, is seen by the circuit committee as urgently needed to make the code feasible.

$72,670,000 Bond Sale By Hollywood Star Tours

(Continued from page 1)

Lake, Marlene Dietrich, Betty Grable, Al Jolson and Harry Akst, Ethel Merman, Martha O'Driscoll, Lt. Bill Holden, Pvt. John Payne, Dennis O'Keefe, Red Skelton, Paul Lukas, Ray Bolger, Gil Lamb, Walter Abel, Helen Forrest, Oscar Levant, Lynn Bari, Susanna Foster, Lana Turner, Milton Berle, Orson Welles, Jack Benny, Rochester, Mischa Auer, Rosemary Lane, Ilene Woods, Dizzy Dean, Johnny Coy.

Cities visited and estimated war bond sales were: St. Louis, $2,000,000; Chicago, $11,000,000; Indianapolis, $10,000,000; Detroit, $2,500,000; Pittsburgh, $7,500,000; Philadelphia, $2,900,000; Brooklyn, $525,0000; New York, $5,500,000; Atlantic City, $4,500,000; Wilmington, $1,500,000; Norfolk, $500,000; Richmond, $2,000,000; Atlanta, $7,500,000; Birmingham, $3,000,000; Knoxville, $3,312,000; Chattanooga, $2,333,000; Louisville, $1,100,000, and Washington, $5,000,000.

Extra shows were given before 20,000 Bell Aircraft employes in Atlanta, 8,000 Wacs at Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., and 8,200 Army engineers at Ft. Belvoir. The players also made radio broadcasts in some of the spots.

O'Donnell on Air in 'Free Movie' Salute

A "Free Movie Day" salute was broadcast over station WNEW here, yesterday, with R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" committee, as featured speaker, and Jeanne Cagney representing Hollywood, Milton Berle the musical comedy stage, and Helen Menken the legitimate theatre. This special broadcast served to promote "Free Movie Day" which was observed yesterday in thousands of theatres. Paula Stone, motion picture commentator of WNEW, was master of ceremonies.

Loew's Bond Sales Almost 10 Million

Sales of war bonds in the Loew's circuit, between June 1 and July 5, totalled $9,968,122, the home office reported yesterday. Of this amount the sum of $848,122 was grossed in the Metropolitan New York area.

Leading the circuit are Loew's Pitkin in Brooklyn with $516,625; Loew's Borough Park, $434,170, and Loew's American in the Bronx with $378,495.

U. S. Intervenes in Goldman Case

(Continued from page 1)

Justice's consent decree case. The Government's petition in effect stated that if the decision of the lower court is sustained it would have serious ramifications on the Sherman Anti-Trust Law all over the country. If the petition is granted the Government will file a brief in behalf of Goldman.

Federal Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in the lower court ruled that while Warners in effect had a monopoly over the showing of first run pictures, it was not in violation of the Sherman Act, and any existence of a conspiracy was not proven. Goldman's case was the first involving the first run houses filing the suit because of his alleged inability to buy suitable first run product for his Center City Erlanger Theatre.

Scophony Big-Screen Television Plans Set

Scophony's 'Supersonic' tube and the 'Skiatron,' both of which are said to permit a picture of any size and brilliance for home or theatre television, will be "put into mass production as soon as war production permits," Arthur Levy, president of Scophony, told the television seminar of the Radio Executives Club here last night. Outlining the experimental work done by the company since 1929, Levy explained that the Skiatron tube was in operation before the war, when Scophony installed television in two London theatres, but has since been made a military secret.

Raymond E. Nelson, vice-president of the Charles M. Storm Co., discussed television programming at the seminar, Murray Grabhorn, chairman of REC's television committee, presided, and Richard Hubbell was moderator.

Services Held for Nolan in Denver

DENVER, July 6.—Funeral services were held here this week for Harry Nolan, 72, who produced the old film "Daddy Long Legs," operated theatres in Colorado and Oklahoma and was franchise holder for the First National in Denver and Salt Lake. He died in a local hospital after a short illness.

Nolan opened his first theatre in Denver in 1906, later operating in Colorado and Oklahoma. His theatres were incorporated in the Westland group several years ago. While still an exhibitor Nolan went to Hollywood and assisted Carl Laemmle in the formation of Universal, and also assisted in the production of films starring Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, the Talmadges and others.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Mary Jane Cella of Chicago.

Carl Mayer Dies

LONDON, July 6.—Carl Mayer, 49, film producer here and motion picture script writer, died here recently. Mayey was the author of "Sunrise," which was also produced in the United States; "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," and "The Last Laugh."

MGM Endeavors to Resume Blocks of 12, Rodgers Says

(*Continued from page* 1)

were made up of fewer pictures.

The company has set no specific number of releases for next season and the total will be determined by existing conditions as release groups are made up throughout the season, Rodgers said. M-G-M will have 35 and possibly 36 pictures in release this season and Rodgers did not indicate any reason to believe that next season's total would vary importantly from that number. MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on June 26 that M-G-M's new season production plans point to a minimum of 36 features for 1944-'45.

"Dragon Seed" will be released this season and will be sold singly for exhibition at established admission scales, Rodgers said. Others to be released this season include: "The Seventh Cross," "Barbary Coast Gent," with Wallace Beery, and Abbott & Costello's "Lost in a Harem." Among September releases will be: "Kismet" and "Mrs. Parkington," the latter with Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. In October the company will have "Marriage Is a Private Affair," "Maisie Goes to Reno" and "An American Romance." "An American Family" is set for November and "National Velvet" for December.

British Production Status

Rodgers said no specific number of pictures are counted upon now from the company's British production organization, headed by Sir Alexander Korda and Ben Goetz. Contributions from that source depend upon what can be made in England in the coming months and the adaptability of the product to the company's program here.

Rodgers returned recently from one of his periodic visits to the M-G-M studios and gave his impressions of the product he had seen, as he has on previous occasions, to the trade press representatives at yesterday's luncheon.

Services for MacLeod On Monday Evening

Donald S. MacLeod, M-G-M Indianapolis manager and son of J. S. MacLeod, head of the company's film exchange maintenance, who was killed Monday in a Santa Fe train wreck near Williams, Ariz., will arrive here today to make arrangements for the funeral. Tentative plans call for services to be held at Coughlan's Funeral Parlor Monday night, with interment Tuesday morning in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Scarsdale, N. Y.

Death Toll Heavy In Circus Fire

HARTFORD, July 6.—Casualties of the fire today in The Big Tent of The Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus were estimated unofficially tonight as ranging upward of 90.

The circus had been touring and on its stop here was estimated to have had an audience today of some 6,000 when the tent collapsed at 2:45 p.m., shortly after the performance had started.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



20 WEEKS THAT ROCKED BROADWAY!

UNPRECEDENTED FIRST-RUN BROADWAY MARK WILL BE ESTABLISHED TUESDAY AT NEW YORK'S PARAMOUNT WHEN "GOING MY WAY" CONCLUDES 10-WEEK RECORD-SHATTERING RUN, FOLLOWING TEN-WEEK ENGAGEMENT OF "LADY IN THE DARK" WHICH BROKE 18-YEAR HOUSE RECORD, ONLY TO HAVE IT TOPPED BY "GOING MY WAY"! FITTING SUCCESSOR TO THESE TWO PRECEDENT BREAKERS WILL BE "AND THE ANGELS SING," WHICH HAS BEEN HANGING UP TOP GROSSES IN OUT-OF-TOWN SHOWINGS.

Films May Attend World Trade Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

Nov. 10-18, when international cartels and related problems will be discussed it was learned yesterday.

The NAM, of which J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal Pictures' board chairman, is a director, has drawn up a list of candidates for the six U.S. delegate posts, the Chamber of Commerce and the National Foreign Trade Council have completed similar lists. Plans call for two delegates from each of these organizations, with the membership of all three voting late in August on the entire slate.

Invitations to some 37 foreign countries, each of which likewise will be allowed six delegates, have been sent out under the signatures of Robert Gaylord, NAM president; Eugene P. Thomas, NFTC president; Elliott Wadsworth, chairman of the American section of the International Chamber of Commerce; and Eric A. Johnston, Chamber of Commerce president.

Major Problems

The conference is designed to "discuss the major economic problems which have current importance and which will likewise have much to do with the maintenance of the peace for which this war is being fought," according to a statement from conference headquarters here. While film problems so far have not been stressed for special attention, the agenda is incomplete and they may be added.

However, 'cartels' are on the list, as are "maintenance of private enterprise, commercial policy of nations, currency relations among nations, encouragement and protection of investments, shipping policy and world supplies of materials." Organizations participating have been requested to forward additional suggested topics.

Sears Calls UA Meeting Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

managers in the Western territory. Date and place will be set later.

Among the district managers who will attend the meeting here will be: Sam Lefkowitz, New York; James Winn, Boston; Jack D. Goldhar, Detroit; Fred M. Jack, Dallas; T. R. Thompson, Kansas City; Rud Lohrenz, Chicago; W. E. Callaway, Los Angeles and A. J. Jeffrey, Toronto.

The following branch managers will attend: Jack Ellis, New York; H. G. Bodkin, Philadelphia; Mark Silver, Washington; John Dervin, Boston; M. V. Sullivan, Jr., Buffalo; William S. Shartin, New Haven; Harris Dudelson, Cincinnati; Morrie Orr, Cleveland; M. Dudelson, Detroit; Morton Magill, Pittsburgh; C. W. Allen, Atlanta and Sid Rose, Chicago.

Among the home office executives who will attend in addition to Sears and Leserman are; Harry Gold, Edward Schnitzer, J. J. Unger, Harry Buckley, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Charles Steele and Louis Pollock.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 5 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JULY 10, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY NOT TO REMOVE

Para. Program Probably 25 To 30 for '45

14 Already Completed, Eight Others in Work

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, July 9. — Although Paramount has not yet determined its number of releases for 1944-45, the probability is it will hover between 25 and 30. This will approximate the level maintained throughout the current season, which finds 27 features on regular release, "Lady in the Dark," "The Story of Dr. Wassell" and "Going My Way," as specials, plus "The City That Stopped Hitler" and "Memphis Belle." Having played as a roadshow, "For Whom the Bell Tolls" will go into regular distribution next season.

Paramount, meanwhile, is proceeding steadily with production. Fourteen features are completed—many of them months ago—eight are currently shooting and a battery of writers is working over preliminary or final scripts on a potential 24 more. The latter group, of course, must be viewed

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chi. MPOU Signs New Agreement

CHICAGO, July 9.—The new officers of the Chicago Moving Picture Operators Union, local 110, signed an agreement with local circuits and independent exhibitors over the weekend, which runs until Sept. 1, 1945. The contract provides wage scale ranges for the first time, ranging from $2 to $3 per hour depending on the classification and seating capacity of the house. It also provides the projec-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Liberty Ship Named For Senator Harris

PITTSBURGH, July 9.—The late Senator John P. Harris, father of John H. Harris, Pittsburgh showman and founder of the Variety Clubs, will be honored with the launching of a new Liberty Ship, the *S.S. John P. Harris,* at the yards of Southeastern Shipbuilding Corp., in Savannah, on Aug. 15, with Mrs. John P. Harris, widow of the late Senator, christening the cargo carrier. The late Senator founded Harris Amusement Co., one of Pennsylvania's key circuits, in 1905. His son is now general manager of the circuit.

Raises for Exchanges

Forsee Wage Increase Throughout Industry

Home office approval of a 'Form 10' application by Seattle exchange service workers seeking a 10 per cent wage increase through the Regional War Labor Board was signed at the weekend, with approval of similar applications for other exchanges throughout the country to follow.

The 10 per cent raise principle received home office sanction some time ago but has been balked so far by the WLB. On May 17, the regional board in Philadelphia turned down an application from the workers in Loew's Washington branch, over which it has jurisdiction, and the workers have since filed an appeal at WLB headquarters in Washington, hoping for a favorable ruling that might establish a precedent to be followed later by all regional offices.

Some 2,000 employes in all exchange centers are affected. They have already received increases amounting to about 12 per cent under the 'Little Steel Formula,' but it is pointed out that the film companies, nevertheless, are having difficulty keeping many from leaving for higher-paying jobs.

Man Wanted But Not For Will Hays' Job

Hollywood, July 9.—The position which the organized industry may offer to an individual of prominence eventually, it is learned reliably, is the presidency of the M. P. Producers Association here. The advisability of employing an outside man for the post is being considered in view of the reluctance of any of the heads of the several studios to serve in that capacity now. There is no organized industry post awaiting Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, it is stated authoritatively.

RKO Eastern Shows To Singer Circuit

CHICAGO, July 9.—Stage attractions bought for RKO houses in the East will be made available to those Singer theatres which use stage shows, as a result of RKO's recent acquisition of the 16-house Singer circuit, but no plans are being made to route a stage attraction consecutively in all circuit theatres using combination policies, Sol A. Schwartz, general manager of RKO's out-of-town houses, revealed here. Schwartz said that William Howard will continue to book stage

(*Continued on page 7*)

Thousands of Theatres to Continue 5th Bond Pace

Thousands of theatres will continue activity in behalf of war bond sales—particularly of the "E" series—through July, it is indicated from pledges of support for the continuance of bond sales arriving at national "Fighting Fifth" committee headquarters here.



R. J. O'Donnell

Exhibitor state chairmen have assured National chairman R. J. O'Donnell that the appeal to continue the effort will be supported and that already programs toward that end have been set up or are planned.

All major distributors have pledged to continue their cooperation with exhibitors.

In his appeal to exhibitors, O'Donnell pointed out that the U. S. Treasury had requested the industry to continue the Fifth War Loan momentum through July because the invasion and the progress being made in the Pacific have created the need for greatly increased war financing, and the Fifth War Loan goal of $16,000,000,000 is not enough.

"The responses from the exhibitor chairmen have been whole-hearted," it was said.

Charles Skouras, national chairman of the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan, and F. H. (Rick) Ricketson, Fourth War Loan vice-chairman, at a conference at national industry bond committee headquarters in New York on Friday, also gave

(*Continued on page 12*)

No More Freon In Prospect Before 1945

New Chicago Plant to Start in August

WASHINGTON, July 9. — With freon production currently running below expectations by a large margin, prospects of any allocation of the refrigerant for cooling systems in theatres or in any other commercial establishment this year have been entirely eliminated, it was indicated in War Production Board circles today.

Hundreds of urgent pleas for freon gas from businessmen whose cooling systems have completely broken down, many of them located in buildings with no windows, have had to be rejected by the WPB despite a real desire by officials to provide relief if at all possible.

There just isn't enough freon to go round, it was stated, nor will there be for some months to come. The

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Routine' U.S. Move In Goldman Suit

WASHINGTON, July 9.—The Government's move to file a brief as friend of the court in the William Goldman anti-trust suit, appeal from the dismissal of which is pending in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Philadelphia, is a routine procedure and will have no influence upon the current negotiations of a new industry consent decree, Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark stated here at the weekend.

The Government's action is not a formal, legal intervention in the case,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Lefton Heads PRC Franchise Holders

CLEVELAND, July 9.—Nat L. Lefton, PRC franchise holder in the Cleveland and Cincinnati territories, has been unanimously named chairman of the newly formed PRC Franchise Holders Committee. He will represent all others in dealings with PRC officials. The franchise holders met recently in New York.

Personal Mention

ROY HAINES, Warners' Southern and Western division sales manager, left last night on a tour of southern branches.

•

LIEUT. MARVIN GRIEVE, formerly of the Warner home office advertising department, is in New York on leave after two years of Army Air Force duty in the European war theatre, where he won the Purple Heart and other decorations.

•

WOLFE COHEN, Warners' Canadian district manager, returned to his Toronto headquarters over the weekend after several days of conferences here with BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager.

•

WALTER GOULD, foreign manager of United Artists, was guest of honor at a birthday luncheon given by the members of his staff at the Hickory House here on Friday.

•

JOHN MORAIO, head of Warners' foreign contract department, is the father of a girl, his second, born Thursday to MRS. MORAIO in Brooklyn Hospital.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Western division sales manager, returned to New York over the weekend from Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

LOU BROWN, Loew's New England publicity chief, left Hartford, Conn., at the weekend for a vacation at Rehoboth, Del.

•

BOB HICKEY, RKO publicist, is back at his Chicago headquarters after a business trip to Canada.

UA Sales Meeting to Open Here Today

United Artists' district and branch managers from the Eastern territories will open a two-day sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here today, with Carl Leserman, general sales manager, presiding. A second meeting will be held for managers in the Western territory, with time and place to be announced later by Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Three Columbia Office Promotions

Mrs. Jeanne Dressler McGrann has been made Columbia home office assistant director of personnel, under the supervision of John Kane, succeeding George Berman, who becomes assistant to George Josephs. Josephs becomes manager of the sales accounting department in place of Daniel Weisman, who assumes the post of assistant to Seth Raisler, manager of the contract department.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE basis for achieving unity in the industry always will exist, Bill Rodgers of M-G-M declared in the course of an informal discussion on a variety of subjects at a luncheon which he tendered trade press representatives here late last week.

Rodgers, who took the reins in the industry's last journey along the obstacle course that is known as the road to unity, reported that interest in achieving the goal never has died. He expressed the belief that it never will. From month to month in the three years since the last attempt was made, letters, messages and callers have come to his office urging that another try be made. The most recent unity petition, he said, came from an exhibitor, a member of the Honored Hundred in the industry's Fourth War Loan drive. It told of the plans in work to make of the Honored Hundred a permanent industry organization and said that when that objective is achieved, the organization hoped to sponsor a unity movement and inquired whether Rodgers would head it.

Affirming his willingness to do his "share" in any future effort to attain industry unity, Rodgers said he would not seek and did not desire to head such a movement again. He cited the petition solely as evidence of the continuing interest in unity.

"Thinking people in the business want unity and always will," he said. "Every one of us would get more out of the business if we had it."

•

Incidentally, many in the industry will agree that no better sponsorship of a unity movement could be found than that which is afforded by the Honored Hundred. The group comprises a cross-section of American exhibition that cuts through every classification of theatre operation and experience. Its membership is so widely divergent and its origin so patently one of distinguished and selfless service that its qualifications as a disinterested sponsoring group for industry unity could not be questioned honestly in any quarter.

A group which served the nation so well surely has the potentialities for serving the industry with equal distinction.

Last week's meeting with Rodgers coincided with his 35th anniversary in the industry. At the session, Rodgers discussed informally trade problems, current conditions, prospects for the future.

It was revealed that Metro's effort of a year or so ago to relieve and assist exhibitors in distress as a result of wartime population shifts developed the foundation for Rodgers' present conviction that with very few exceptions among subsequent runs, hardship cases are a rarity in the industry and prosperity is exceptionally general. This conviction came about after Metro appropriated $125,000 for the assistance of wartime casualties among its accounts. Many were helped. Eventually, M-G-M decided that it could offer more efficient assistance if it designated an experienced person to examine the individual theatre applicant's situation, determine the cause of his difficulties and suggest remedies.

That was when applicants for assistance began to disappear. Most of them said they didn't need and didn't want a visitor from the company. The conclusion was that the situation of most was not so grave.

•

Rodgers believes unprecedented years of prosperity for the industry lie in the immediate future. He views as one of exhibition's most serious current problems the dearth of product available to some subsequent runs from time to time as a result of the extended runs being given some pictures by first run houses. M-G-M, he said, is at work now on a plan which will bring relief to subsequents faced with that problem.

He also disclosed that M-G-M district managers are visiting theatres in their territories with the objective of equalizing the application of M-G-M's sliding scale plan to individual situations. The equalizing will mean, for some, an increase in terms; for others, a decrease. The company's aim continues to be, he said, a price policy that fairly reflects the individual theatre's ability to pay. That policy is not based upon the cost of product, Rodgers said, but on the sales department's appraisal of the worth of each picture. Citing vastly increased production costs, Rodgers declared that M-G-M's sales policy has remained unchanged, regardless.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 9

BOB CROSBY, screen and radio performer, has joined the Fifth Marine Division at Camp Pendleton as a 2nd lieutenant. He is Bing Crosby's brother.

•

Universal signed Howard Welch as a member of its studio's executive group. Welch headed English producing companies for ten years before coming to Hollywood two years ago.

•

Columbia extended Will Jason's directorial contract one year, and assigned him to "Eve Knew Her Apples."

•

Universal renewed director Reginald Leborg's contract.

Launch 'Wilson' on Air

A program of 820 weekly spot announcements over 12 radio stations in the New York Metropolitan area has been launched by 20th-Fox as a build-up for the world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" at the Roxy Theatre Aug. 1. They will run through Aug. 2.

'Winkle' Premiere at Aberdeen Wednesday

Columbia's "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" will have its world premiere in the six post theatres of the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, Md., on Wednesday, supplemented by a broadcast of the Dunninger radio program over the Blue Network.

Griffith Quits Variety

L. C. Griffith, recently named chairman of the war council of Oklahoma, has resigned as chief barker of the Oklahoma Variety Club due to the pressure of his new duties, it was disclosed here yesterday by national chief barker R. J. O'Donnell. Ralph Talbot of Tulsa, charter member of the Oklahoma tent, will succeeed Griffith.

20th-Fox Oversubscribed

An offer of 34,000 shares of 20th-Fox common stock, made here at the weekend by White, Weld & Co., was oversubscribed. Purchases were made by 47 companies. Dealers' commissions amounted to 50 cents per share.

Drop Tuesday Previews

Beginning with "And the Angels Sing," the Paramount Theatre here will discontinue its policy of Tuesday night previews. The new film will open Wednesday at 9 a.m.

MOT to Host Press

"Americans All," latest March of Time release, will be screened for the press Wednesday afternoon in the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here. A reception will follow.

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Step Lively with RKO!

And



The Grandest

On the



Frank SINATRA



George MURPHY



Adolphe MENJOU



Gloria DE HAVEN



Walter SLEZAK



Eugene PALLETTE

in

Step

TUNE IN!
CASH IN!

RKO's great radio program . . . Now selling seats for YOU! 15 minutes daily Coast to Coast over 177 stations of the Blue Network.

HOLLYWOOD STAR TIME

12:15 P. M. daily
Monday through Friday
Pacific Coast time

Gayest Musical of the Current Screen





TOP STARS!
GORGEOUS GIRLS!
GREAT SONGS!
(Sinatra Sings Four!)
SWEET-HOT GIRL BAND!
TEMPO-TERRIFIC DANCES!
Laughs and *Laughs* LAUGHS!

Lively



with WALLY BROWN



ALAN CARNEY

GRANT MITCHELL





ANNE JEFFREYS

oduced by Robert Fellows • Directed by Tim Whelan

Screen Play by Warren Duff and Peter Milne



Stretch your lobby frames for all these top names.

FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
GLORIA DE HAVEN
WALTER SLEZAK
EUGENE PALLETTE
WALLY BROWN · ALAN CARNEY
GRANT MITCHELL · ANNE JEFFREYS

they're all in

Step Lively

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Chi. MPOU Signs New Agreement

(Continued from page 1)

tionist an additional 30 minutes per working day, to be paid by the exhibitor, for preparation.

Emphasizing the management of the locals newly elected officers, the agreement calls for an inspection of each theatre contract by the membership so that the members may know what the minimum wage scale is in each and every house. The pact was signed for the union by Eugene J. Atkinson, business manager, Clarence A. Jalas, his assistant, James Gorman, president and Dan Carmel, attorney who drafted the contract.

Among the circuits covered by the agreements are Balaban and Katz, Great States H. and E. Balaban Corp., Warner Bros., Sam Meyer Schoenstadt, Essaness and Alliance. Jack Kirsh, president of allied theatres of Illinois signed for some 150 independent exhibitors.

Atkinson called a mass membership meeting to reveal the terms of the contract. He told the members, "When we took office February 14th we meant business when we said that there was to be a new deal in the union. The union is to be run for the benefit of its members. We aim to have permanently amicable relations with exhibitors. The union will never again experience the perpetuation of the deals that sent men to the penitentiary. Our organization has no more space for mobsters."

RKO Eastern Shows To Singer Circuit

(Continued from page 1)

shows in New York, while John Redmond, newly appointed RKO division manager supervising the Singer houses, will continue to search for talent from his headquarters here. The Singer houses that have been using occasional combination bills are located in Omaha and Minneapolis (full weeks). and Waterloo, Davenport, Sioux City, Cedar Rapids, and Dubuque, Ia. (split weeks).

Schwartz has decided not to appoint a new manager for the Palace Theatre here, leaving Frank Smith, new RKO division manager, to continue to be in direct charge of the house. Harry Schreiber, assistant division manager, will spend most of his time on the road, covering Champaign, Kansas City, Des Moines, and St. Paul.

Warner Bros.' Earle Building Is Sold

PHILADELPHIA, July 9.—Warners' Earle Theatre Building, comprising the 3,000-seat Earle Theatre, a six-floor office building housing the Warner circuit offices, and several ground-floor shops, has been sold by the Stanley Co. to the W. T. Grant Realty Corp. five-and-ten-cent store chain, which will erect a four-story, $1,000,000 department store on the site after the war.

Originally built in 1923 at a cost of $5,000,000 by the Stanley and B. F. Keith interests, the structure was sold at a reported $1,650,000. Until the Grant project can get under way Warners will continue operation of the theatre, stores and offices in the present building.

Paramount Will Probably Have 25 to 30 for '45

(Continued from page 1)

in the light of normal production hazards. Some stories may not jell and, therefore, may be deferred. In some instances, starring assignments pile up to an extent which obviously presages many months before these tentative vehicles can be launched.

Here is the company's backlog, these being attractions which are finished and available, with no indications at this early point as to what is to be released when, although the majority are believed heading for the 1944-45 program:

1944-45 Program

"And Now Tomorrow," with Loretta Young, Alan Ladd and Susan Hayward; producer, Fred Kohlmar; director, Irving Pichel. "Bring on the Girls," Veronica Lake, Sonny Tufts, Eddie Bracken; producer, Fred Kohlmar; director, Sidney Lanfield; in color. "Frenchman's Creek," Joan Fontaine, Arturo De Cordoba; producer, David Lewis; director, Mitchell Leisen; in color; "Incendiary Blonde," Betty Hutton, Arturo De Cordoba; producer, Joseph Sistrom; director, George Marshall; in color.

"The Man in Half Moon Street," Nils Asther, Helen Walker; producer, Walter MacEwen; director, Ralph Murphy; "Ministry of Fear," Ray Milland, Marjorie Reynolds; producer, Seton Miller; director, Fritz Lang. "National Barn Dance," Jean Heather, Robert Benchley; producer, Walter MacEwen; director, Hugh Bennett. "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," Gail Russell, Diana Lynn; producer, Sheridan Gibney; director, Lewis Allen. "Practically Yours," Fred MacMurray, Claudette Colbert; producer, Harry Tugend; director, Mitchell Leisen. "Rainbow Island," Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken; associate producer, E. D. Leshin; director, Frank Tuttle; in color. "Road to Utopia," Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour; producer, Paul Jones; director, Hal Walker. "Till We Meet Again," Barbara Britton, Ray Milland; producer, David Lewis; director, Frank Borzage; "Dark Mountain," Robert Lowery, Ellen Drew; producers, Pine-Thomas; director, William Berke. "One Body Too Many," Jack Haley, Jean Parker; producers, Pine-Thomas; director, Frank McDonald.

In various stages of production are: "A Medal for Benny," Dorothy Lamour, Arturo De Cordoba; producer, Paul Jones; director, Irving Pichel. "Her Heart in Her Throat," Joel McCrea, Gail Russell; associate producer, John Houseman; director, Lewis Allen. "Here Come the Waves," Bing Crosby, Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts; producer-director, Mark Sandrich. "Kitty," Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland; producer, Karl Tunberg; director, Mitchell Leisen. "Murder, He Says," Fred MacMurray, Helen Walker; producer, E. D. Leshin; director, George Marshall; "Out of This World," Veronica Lake, Eddie Bracken, Diana Lynn; producer, Sam Coslow; director, Hal Walker. "Two Years Before the Mast," Alan Ladd, William Bendix, Brian Donlevy; producer, Seton Miller; director, John Farrow. "Double Exposure," Chester Morris, Nancy Kelly; producers, Pine-Thomas; director, William Berke.

Story and Script Phases

Preparing—chiefly in story treatment and script phases—are: "Ambassador in White"; "Cross My Heart," which is discussed for Miss Hutton, Tufts and Barry Fitzgerald; "Duffy's Tavern," with Hope and Bendix; "Eldorado"; "Girl's Town," for Hope; "The Lost Weekend," which Charles Brackett would produce and Billy Wilder direct; "Miss Susie Slagle's," for Tufts and Betty Field; "Olympia," for Brackett-Wilder; "Our Hearts Were Growing Up," with Miss Russell and Bill Edwards, and Kenneth MacGowan producing; "Prince Charming," with Kohlmar producing; "Princess on the Warpath," starring Miss Lamour.

Also these: "Rainbow's End," with MacGowan producing; "Rurales," with C. B. De Mille producing and directing; "Sally O'Rourke," for Ladd and Stanley Clements, with Leshin producing; "Sophie Cooper"; "Stork Club," for Miss Hutton, with Kohlmar producing; "Sword of Gascony"; "To Each His Own," contemplated with Brackett producing; "Torch Song," with Miss Hutton; "The Trouble With Women," which Seton Miller would produce; "Victoria Grandolet," for production by Houseman and direction by Leisen; "The Virginian," with Donlevy starred and Paul Jones producing, in color, and an untitled ghost story planned by MacGowan and Miss Field.

Wallis' Status

Not finally determined are Hal B. Wallis' productions, but "The Searching Wind," Lillian Hellman play, is viewed as highly likely to be his first; Similarly undetermined is B. G. De Sylva's program under his newly established unit. Whether he will take over one or more in the list of futures mentioned above remains to be established. It is not remote that he might.

Pine-Thomas will produce at least six for 1944-45 and may go as high as nine. The larger number will be determined on the basis of Paramount's anticipated requirements as the new season grows closer. Next for them will be "Dangerous Passage," which goes into work Aug. 10. Also planned are "Homesick Angel" and "Hillbilly Symphony."

Hollywood Writers Elects Officers

LOS ANGELES, July 9.—The Hollywood Writers Mobilization Committee has elected Emmett Lavery, chairman, Dr. Franklin Fearing, first vice-chairman, Bill Blowitz, second, John Houseman, third; A. Burrows, treasurer and Howard Estabrook, secretary.

Morean Heads AMPP Foreign Committee

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Dick Morean, M-G-M studio foreign publicity contact, has been elected chairman of the foreign department committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. He will serve six months.

No More Freon in Sight Until '45

(Continued from page 1)

only bright spot in the picture is the scheduled completion within the next few weeks of a new plant at East Chicago, from which it is hoped to secure an additional 500,000 pounds of gas in August and shortly thereafter a steady flow of 2,000,000 pounds a month.

By the end of the year it is hoped that freon production will be running in excess of 5,000,000 pounds monthly, and a steady flow at that level or better may make it possible to release gas next spring for theatre and other commercial cooling systems, although there is no indication that the supply will permit more than the relief of distress cases until military requirements show a substantial decline.

Freon gas is required—in large quantities—on every ship floated, for food preservation and other purposes; by hospitals, food storage establishments, and many war plants where constant temperatures are required, and large quantities are being used for "DDT," the "wonder" insecticide used by the Army in the tropics. All these needs must be met before any consideration can be given to supplies for comfort cooling, the WPB emphasized.

'Routine' U.S. Move In Goldman Suit

(Continued from page 1)

it was pointed out, but is designed merely to obtain the court's permission for the filing of a Government brief to enable the Department of Justice to acquaint the court with its views on the questions in issue. The Government contends that the issues in the Goldman suit parallel those in the New York anti-trust case, on which the consent decree is based, and it believes that the court should be apprised of the facts of the situation and the Department's position in the matters involved.

Attorneys for decree companies in New York said that they did not anticipate any objections would be made to the filing of a government brief in the Goldman case, adding that they assumed they would be given the opportunity to reply to any brief which might be filed.

George Seitz, 56, Dies On West Coast

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—George B. Seitz, 56, director for M-G-M and one of the pioneers in the industry died Saturday morning following a heart attack in the residence of his son in Beverly Hills. He was with M-G-M since 1930 and had directed 13 "Andy Hardy" pictures. He is survived by his widow, a son, George Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. J. H. Adams of Portland, Maine.

He was born in Boston, Jan. 3, 1888. He entered the picture field with Pathe. Among numerous important productions which he directed were: "Passport to Paradise," "Drums of Jeopardy," "Lion and the Lamb," "Arizona," and "Love in High Gear."

Andrew Stone's









They Don't Stop Fighting! Keep Selling War Bonds for Victory.





WHOOPS!

DON'T GET CAUGHT WITH YOUR BOXOFFICE DOWN JUST BECAUSE THIS PICTURE IS TOO BIG FOR THE AD . . .

It's **"SENSATIONS OF 1945"** It's one wild surge of entertainment from start to finish! Eleanor Powell at her whirling best! Dennis O'Keefe romancing while W. C. Fields, Eugene Pallette and Sophie Tucker quicken the comedy! Plus C. Aubrey Smith, David Lichine, Dorothy Donegan and the Cristianis! AND making rife with the jive are Woody Herman's and Cab Calloway's Orchestra It's what the crowds WANT and HOW they want it . . .

and U.A. has it NOW!

They Don't Stop Fighting! Keep Selling War Bonds for Victory.

'Way's' $52,000 Nears House Record in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, July 9.—In spite of spotty business, downtown theatres are more than holding their own this week. The Mastbaum leads, with opening week of "Going My Way" promising a near-record $52,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 8:

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, reissue. Gross $15,800. (Average: $14,600).

"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,600).

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $18,000).

"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.) (6 days)
"Going My Way?" (Para.) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Abe Lyman's orchestra, Gene Sheldon, Bob DuPont, Rose Blane, Frankie Connors and Jack Marlowe. Gross: $22,200. (Average: $27,600).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $20,500).

"Lady in the Dark" (Para.)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $6,600).

"Days of Glory" (RKO)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $52,000. (Average: $22,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,300. (Average: $20,000).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,400).

'Indiana' Dual Hits $20,000 in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, July 9.—Perfect midsummer weather boosted attendance at St. Louis first-runs this week. "Home in Indiana" at the Ambassador leads with $20,000, and "The White Cliffs of Dover" will do $19,000 at Loew's State in the second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 7:

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,700).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,700).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,900).

"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
"Show Business" (RKO)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,900).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
"The Black Parachute" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100).

"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).

"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)
"Passage to Marseille" (WB)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,200).

Reviews

"Delinquent Daughters"

(PRC Pictures)

Hollywood, July 9

PRODUCERS Donald C. McKean and Albert Herman have brought to the screen a story of juvenile delinquency. In it a group of high-school kids, apparently from good homes, commit a series of petty crimes which net them an average of $2.80 per holdup. They are led by an older and more experienced racketeer who owns a nightclub which is a rendezvous for the youngsters.

More serious crimes, including hit-and-run driving and a payroll robbery in which a guard is killed, bring the young people into conflict with the police. A lecture by the judge of the juvenile court makes clear to them the error of their ways, and after the nightclub owner has been killed in an automobile accident, the kids take over the club and install a malted milk bar.

The cast, with the exception of Fifi D'Orsay, reveal their inexperience. The direction, by Albert Herman, makes its points with sledgehammer subtlety. The screenplay, by Arthur St. Claire, fails either to convince or to entertain.

Others in the cast are June Carlson, Teala Loring, Mary Bovard, Marga Dean, Johnny Duncan, Joe Devlin and Jon Dawson.

Running time, 62 minutes. Release date July 15. "G."*

THALIA BELL

"Marshal of Reno"

(Republic)

Hollywood, July 9

THE second in the series of Westerns based on the "Red Ryder" comic strip comes up to the standard of its predecessor. Lou Gray's production is a neat job and Wallace Grissell's direction lays emphasis on action. Wild Bill Elliott, George "Gabby" Hayes and Bobby Blake are again cast as Red Ryder, Gabby, and Little Beaver, respectively. Others in the cast whose performances deserve mention are Alice Fleming as The Duchess, and Jay Kirby as Danny Boyd.

Kirby, an Easterner looking for action, finds plenty of it when he tangles with a gang of killers who will stop at nothing to prevent the town of Blue Springs from becoming the county seat. They so contrive matters that the young stranger is blamed for their crimes. Bill Elliott, sensing the plot, throws a six-shooter into the proceedings, exposes the villains, and sees to it that they get their just deserts.

The screenplay is by Anthony Coldewey, from an original story by him and Taylor Caven.

Running time, 54 mins. Release date, July 2, 1944. "G."*

THALIA BELL

"Law of the Saddle"

(PRC)

ACTION, brevity and good comedy, makes "Law of the Saddle" a palatable Western. Bob Livingston and "Fuzzy" St. John head the cast, all of whom turn in creditable performances.

The story sends Livington and St. John to capture an outlaw band under the leadership of Lane Chandler, who seeks the office of sheriff to make things easier for his boys. Livingston, knowing Chandler from past encounters, seeks to put him in jail. Betty Miles' father is murdered and Livingston, a stranger in town, is accused, but with "Fuzzy's" assistance breaks jail, convinces the sheriff of his innocence, picks up the evidence against Chandler and sees the culprits captured. Director Melville de Lay keeps the picture rolling at a rapid pace. Fred Myton wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 59 minutes. Released Aug. 21. "G"*

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Nat Carr, Actor, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Nat Carr, 57, veteran screen and stage actor, died at his home here Thursday night after an illness of several months. A native of Russia, Carr came to this country as a boy. His last film was Warners' "King of the Lumberjacks," 1940. He leaves a widow, Gertrude Carr, actress.

MacLeod Rites Tuesday

Funeral services for J. S. MacLeod, Loew executive who was killed in the Santa Fe train wreck last week, will be held tomorrow at two p.m. instead of tonight as previously announced. Burial will be in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Scarsdale.

'Holiday' Gets $85,000 Take

LOS ANGELES, July 9.—"Christmas Holiday" proved to be the strongest new attraction in a week, getting $85,000 in the Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's - State - Uptown quadrangle which has an average of $61,300. Weather was favorable.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 5:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,200).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $9,500).

"Voice in the Wind" (UA)
"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 4 days, 5th week. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $6,200).

"Snow White" (RKO-Disney) 2nd week
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO) 7 days
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,700).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $24,100).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $14,900).

"Snow White" (RKO-Disney) 2nd week
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO) 7 days
PANTAGES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,700).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,000).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-)c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,300).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $8,-700).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,500).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNER BROS. HOLLYWOOD—(3,-000) (50c-60c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,000).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNER BROS. DOWNTOWN—(3,-400) (50c-60c-80c-1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,-000. (Average: $18,700).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,675. (Average: $15,200).

Last Minute Rush for M-G-M Novel Award

Sixty scripts have been received in M-G-M's first 'Annual Novel Award Contest,' which closed at the weekend, according to John Scott Mabon, M-G-M official in charge. Twenty novels were submitted at the close.

The scripts will be judged between now and Aug. 15 by Harry Hansen, literary critic of the *New York World-Telegram;* Amy Loveman, associate editor of the *Saturday Review of Literature;* and producer Sidney Franklin. They will be published by 32 different houses.

The winning author, contingent upon the number of sales of his book, will receive $125,000 to $175,000 and his publisher, $25,000. M-G-M will get film and allied rights to the winning novel and will bid in the open market for any others it wishes to acquire.

25% Increase in Theatre Screen-Ads

Screen advertising in theatres has increased 25 percent in a year, according to *Motion Picture Herald*. Advertising film producers and distributors attribute the step-up to decreases in available newspaper advertising space and to the accelerated use by circuits of screen-ad films.

Estimates place the total revenue to exhibitors from the showing of advertising films between $2,500,000 and $3,000,000 a year.

WMC Lists Rules for Worker Migrations

WASHINGTON, July 9.—Ten conditions that must be met before the War Manpower Commission, under its new referral system, will grant requests for migration of workers from one area to another, have been outlined by chairman Paul V. McNutt.

The employer seeking such workers must show that: he is making full use of his present force, all local sources have been exhausted, the need for workers is hindering war production, the number of persons requested represents his actual need, minimum specifications for performance of the job and the range of wages have been presented, the recruitment itinerary arranged by the U. S. Employment Service will be followed, any required medical examinations will be given at the employer's expense at the point of recruitment (or, if not, he will provide those failing such tests with return transportation), he will pay the transportation to the scene of the job, that he will pay the return fare in the event of non-acceptance, and housing facilities will be made available.

Signal Corps Honors Research Council

LOS ANGELES, July 9.—A certificate of appreciation was presented late last week by Col. S. W. Stanley, representing the U. S. Signal Corps, to members of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences at a luncheon ceremony.

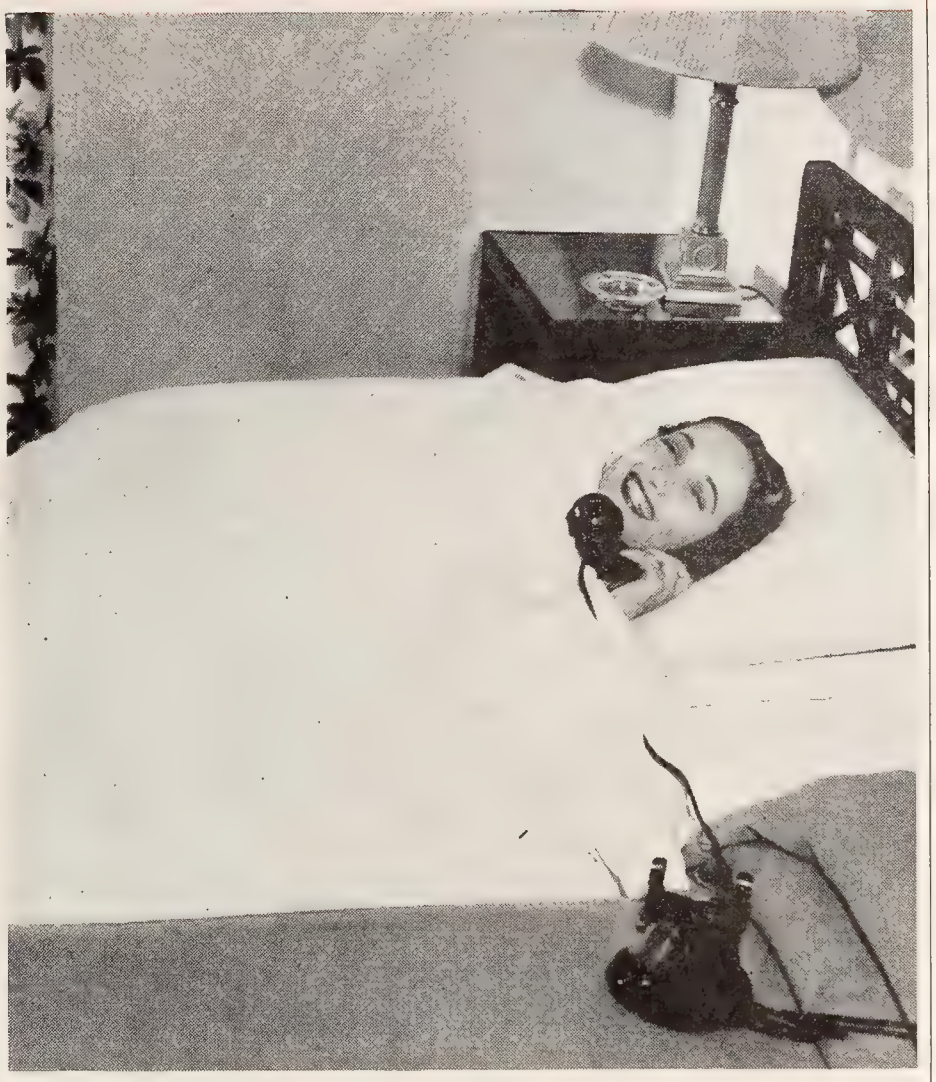
Col. Stanley paid tribute to the group and said: "Training films have revolutionized Army training technique; because more can be taught in less time and remembered longer than by any other medium of instruction." He called the Council's service record one of which all can be justifiably proud.

Danker Services Held

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Funeral services for Daniel Danker, 40, vice-president of the J. Walter Thompson agency here, were held yesterday afternoon at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Danker, who died Wednesday of a heart attack, had been associated with Thompson for 18 years and was the creator of the Lux Radio Theatre and other radio programs. He is survived by his widow, Lorene, and a daughter, Suzanne.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



THEY WON'T LET HER SLEEP! JUST VISITING NEW YORK IS BIG NEWS WHEN THE VISITOR IS DOROTHY LAMOUR...WHICH "CLICK" MAGAZINE COVERS IN AUGUST ISSUE WITH TWO-PAGE PHOTO SPREAD OF DOTTY IN GOTHAM, BREAKING TO HELP CURRENT SHOWINGS OF **"AND THE ANGELS SING."** AND PLUGGING THE SOON-TO-BE-SEEN "RAINBOW ISLAND;" TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL LAUGH HIT WITH DOTTY, EDDIE BRACKEN, GIL LAMB AND BARRY SULLIVAN.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, July 9

THERE are 16 roducers and producer-directors now at work at Universal, the largest number in that studio's history. Frank Ryan is busy with "Can't Help Singing," Deanna Durbin's first color production, which co-stars Robert Paige. Reginald LeBorg has just finished "San Diego, I Love You," comedy which co-stars Louise Allbritton and Jon Hall. Charles Lamont is in the midst of shooting "Bowery to Broadway," described as one of the company's biggest. It stars Maria Montez, Jack Oakie, Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey and Evelyn Ankers. Robert Siodmak will be back at work soon on "The Suspect," which stars Charles Laughton and Ella Raines. John Rawlins has just returned from New Mexico with the "Queen of the Nile" company. This one, too, is in color. Jean Yarbrough is currently directing Abbott and Costello in "In Society." Edward Lilley is slated to direct the next Andrews Sisters' musical, "Stars Over Manhattan."

Other directors on the company's roster include Lewis Collins, Ray Taylor, Edward F. Cline, Ford Beebe, Roy William Neill, Felix Feist, George Waggner, Erle Kanton and Charles David.

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John M. Stahl will direct his first musical for 20th Century-Fox, "The Dolly Sisters" co-starring Alice Faye and Betty Grable. . . . Clarence Brown will leave shortly for New York where he will look over the Broadway stage offerings, with special emphasis on two shows in which M-G-M is interested and which Brown may bring to the screen. . . . Monogram has signed Paul Kelly to star in "Little Devils." Kelly will portray an American pilot who crashes behind the Jap lines. . . . William Bacher will produce "Leave Her to Heaven," dramatization of Ben Ames Williams' book, for 20th Century-Fox.

•

RKO Radio has purchased two new properties: "Stars in Her Hair," and "Galveston." The latter is a story of that city's famous hurricane early in the century. . . . Peggy Ryan will be co-starred with Jack Oakie in Universal's "That's the Spirit." . . . PRC has lifted Martha Tilton's option. . . . 20th Century-Fox has assigned Andre Daven to produce "Our Moment Is Swift" and "The Little Horse" . . . Ellen Drew has been signed to a long-term contract by RKO and goes into the top feminine spot in "The Isle of the Dead." Also featured in the cast are Boris Karloff, Marc Cramer and Jason Robards. . . . Eddie Rocco has been added to the cast of PRC's "When the Lights Go On Again."

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Maintaining the highest summer production level in its history, Paramount will average eight pictures in work throughout the Summer. Four high-budget films will go before the cameras in August. One of these, a modernization of Owen Wister's novel, "The Virginian," will be in color.

Exhibitors Pledge To Continue Drive

Telegraphic responses from exhibitors in the field to R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the 'Fighting Fifth' committee, "indicate wholehearted support of the Treasury Department's request that theatres maintain their War Bond selling effort through July," industry bond headquarters stated here yesterday.

Exhibitor State Chairmen and individual exhibitors are pledging complete continuance of their efforts following the conclusion of the Fifth War Loan drive Saturday, the national committee stated.

Theatres Continue 5th War Bond Pace

(Continued from page 1)

their personal pledges to O'Donnell for continued support of war bond selling efforts through July.

Skouras told O'Donnell that all National Theatres, of which he is president, would continue the Fifth War Loan pace for the rest of the month. Ricketson, who heads the Fox Intermountain division of National Theatres, gave O'Donnell a similar assurance for his division as well as other exhibitors in Colorado, where he is exhibitor state chairman.

N. Y. State Over Top; Broadway Rallies Go On

New York State has surpassed by $100,000,000 its $4,801,000,000 Fifth War Loan goal, Nevil Ford, War Finance Committee state chairman, announced at the weekend. At the same time, Ford was told by C. C. Moskowitz, industry chairman for the Metropolitan area, that his workers would carry on with "unabated vigor" and that the big cash register in Times Square would offer daily shows until midnight July 31. The register staffs have sold 10,899 bonds worth $2,026,998.

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Henry Ginsberg Chairman of the War Finance Committee announced that the Hollywood industry's War Bond purchases exceed $12,000,000 to date.

Achieve Record in Personal Appearances

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—The Hollywood Victory Committee's semi-annual report shows film players made 8,960 appearances in 1,113 events for the Armed services, Government agencies and charitable enterprises, during first six months of 1944. Forty-six stars toured the battlefronts overseas. Since formation the HVC players have made 29,788 appearances in 3,239 events.

Tribute to Saloman

Warner offices here and on the Coast observed two minutes of silent prayer at three p.m. on Friday in tribute to A. M. (Doc) Saloman, former manager of W.B.'s Teddington Studios in London, who was killed by a robot bomb explosion in England.

U. S. Cooperation Expands Mexican Film Production

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Studios in Mexico will produce about 80 pictures in 1944 and substantially more per annum thereafter, according to Jorge Negrete, president of the two-months-old Mexican Actors Guild, who was here as spokesman for all branches of the Mexican industry, and who returned to Mexico City at the weekend. With this expansion, made practicable largelv by cooperation of the American Government and industry, furthered by the U. S. Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, will come need of operational practices in common use here but not yet installed as fixtures of Mexican production routine.

Talent agencies, Negrete said, may be expected to come into use in Mexico as production increases. Up to now only one has functioned successfully there and its usefulness has been small, due mainly to the lag of talent supply behind production requirement. With all available actors, directors and technicians in steady demand at prices well above established minimums, professionals do not require agents to sell their services, the MAG president explained.

With expansion will come, also, institution of a contractual system parallel to that prevailing in Hollywood, Negrete believes. At present there is no Mexican equivalent of what Hollywood calls the "term contract," assuring to an employer the services of a professional for a period of years—usually seven—with periodic option privileges. Commitments are made, instead, for one, two or three stipulated pictures, contracting of talent usually preceding preparation of scripts, which then are shaped to the abilities of the talent contracted.

Relief in the matter of acting talent shortage is sought in one of the MAG's major undertakings, a directly-operated academy of acting now in process of development and scheduled to begin operations in October or November with a class of 100 or more students chosen on a basis of displayed ability. This academy, not yet given a fixed title, is not to be confused with the Mexican Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences, which is maintained by the Mexican Ministry of Public Education, but will be co-sponsored by that agency to the extent that governmental aid may prove to be desirable.

Formed two months ago by Mexican actors dissatisfied with treatment which their interests received during dominion of the technicians' union over them, the MAG includes actors of stage, radio, concert and variety, as well as screen, in its membership of 1,200. To qualify for status as an active member, a player must have performed a role of third importance, or better, in six feature pictures, although admission on what is called an administrative membership basis is granted to bit players on first appearance. Extras, atmosphere players and others who speak no lines are continuing under dominion of the technicians' organization.

SAG Asked to Police MAG Committments

LOS ANGELES, July 9.—The Screen Actors Guild's board has canvassed a proposal submitted by Jorge Negrete, president of the Mexican Actors Guild, for policing commitments on Mexican players while here, and decided to assure the MAG that all practicable assistance will be given on an informal basis. The decision to keep its cooperation informal followed the advice of counsel for the SAG which foresaw possible legal complications if the matter was given official status.

Specifically refuting reports that the MAG in particular or the Mexican industry in general had taken a stand in opposition to the dubbing of American-made films in Hollywood, Negrete said his organization and all others were of the belief that more rather than less interchange of talent between Mexico and the United States is to be desired in the mutual interest.

Two New WAC Short Two Film Bulletins

Four new War Information films for August are reported by the War Activities Committee here. The first, "Memo for Joe," starring Quentin Reynolds, is about the National War Fund and Community Chests, produced by RKO-Pathe, for Aug. 10 release. "Report to Judy," Universal production scheduled for Aug. 24 release, is WAVE recruiting information.

New film bulletins to be attached to newsreels include "Manning the Victory Fleet," scheduled for Aug. 3 release, which states the need of the Merchant Marine for men, and "Are You a High School Graduate?" for release Aug. 17, reminding youths that postwar problems will requqire a higher level of education and training. The film bulletin "Last Furlough," originally scheduled for July 20 release is to be released on July 13. "Prepare for Winter," fuel conservation film bulletin originally scheduled for Aug. 3, is to be released July 20.

'Wassell's' $18,000 Is High in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, July 9.—Downtown business is perking up here, led this week by "The Story of Dr. Wassell," grossing $16,000 at Radio City, and "Seven Days Ashore," getting $18,000, coupled with an Ozzie Nelson-Harriet Hilliard stage show, at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 7:

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (50c-65c) 7 days. On stage: Ozzie Nelson and his orchestra, with Harriet Hilliard and revue. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,400).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,500).

"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,700).

"Catherine the Great"
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,400).

"Silent Partners" (Rep.)
"Trocadero" (Rep.)
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 6 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,600).

'Wassell' Is Cleveland Leader with $25,000

CLEVELAND, July 9.—The first run take is heading for the biggest since warm weather began. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at Loew's State is in front with $25,000. "It Happened Tomorrow" at Loew's Ohio also rang the bell with $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 6:

"Snow White" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500).

"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $22,100).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,100).

"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-95c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Ted Lewis. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $25,400).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,000).

"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Sensations' Cut by Memphis Censors

MEMPHIS, July 9.—All scenes involving Cab Calloway and his band were deleted from the Andrew Stone United Artists production "Sensations of 1945" by order of the Memphis Board of Censors when the picture opened Thursday here at Loew's Palace. Lloyd Bingford, chairman of the board, pronounced the scenes "inimical to the public interest," Col. Cecil Vogel, manager of the Palace, reported.

"Sensations" is the second picture in which Negro performers resulted in recent deletions by the Memphis board. Lena Horne was removed from the MGM musical, "Broadway Rhythm," which also played the Palace, although Hazel Scott's act was allowed to remain. "Stormy Weather" was kept out of Memphis for several months upon recommendation of the board but finally played the city a few weeks ago.

Maj. Silverstein Dies

Major David F. Silverstein, 47, former film writer and recently attached to the Army Signal Corps at Astoria, died at the weekend in Halloran General Hospital. Major Silverstein held the Purple Heart.

M-G-M Will Add to Exhibitor Service

M-G-M's exhibitor relations department, headed by H. M. Richey, will be augmented in the near future, W. F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, has announced. The decision was made, he added, when the value of the department was demonstrated conclusively during the company's recent 20th anniversary observance, when every regularly operated theatre in the country played an M-G-M picture.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 6 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1944 TEN CENTS

RKO CORP. DO NOT REMOVE

48 Films in Long Range Plans of UA

Program is for '44-45 and Into Year Following

United Artists has 48 films in prospect for the remainder of this season, for 1944-45, and for early in the following season, Gradwell L. Sears, distribution vice-president and Carl Leserman, general sales manager, announced at the company's opening of a two-day Eastern sales meeting, yesterday, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.



Gradwell L. Sears

The program, designed to assure systematic delivery of product, has 28

(*Continued on page 7*)

To Telecast Democrats

RKO Television's second assignment for National Broadcasting's New York television outlet, WNBT, will be the filming of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago starting July 19.

Following the pattern set for the Republican National Convention late last month, RKO Television is preparing a three-reel film from Pathe stock shots showing previous Democratic National Conventions, Democratic presidents and nominees of previous years as well as shots of present aspirants for the Democratic presiden-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Cohn and Montague At Coast Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—Columbia's third and last meeting in its series of 1944-45 sales gatherings will get under way here today for three days at the St. Francis Hotel. Jack Cohn

(*Continued on page 7*)

Laemmle Resuming Career in Hollywood

Hollywood, July 10 — Carl Laemmle, Jr., honorably discharged several weeks ago from the U. S. Army Signal Corps, arrived here at the weekend and said he would resume his film career following a rest. Announcement of his specific plans will be made later.

Laemmle had served many months at the Signal Corps studios, Astoria, L. I. He entered the service in 1942 after six years of independent production, which followed his resignation in 1936 as Universal's vice-president and general manger in charge of production.

RKO Pension Plan To Treasury Soon

RKO plans to file for official U. S. Treasury Department approval of its pension plan by the end of this month, it was learned here yesterday. The delay in filing has been occasioned by the necessity of assembling the data required by the Treasury.

Originally, the Treasury indicated that the plan would meet with its approval when RKO submitted the details late last year. RKO put the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hottest Weekend in Years Deflates Broadway Grosses

The past weekend, hottest here in years, spelled bad business for Broadway theatres, which, with few exceptions, will report grosses for the current week considerably under par. Holding up best in the face of the public's flight to the beaches are "Christmas Holiday" at the Criterion and "Once Upon a Time" at the Music Hall. The former, said to be breaking records for the house, is headed for $36,000 through tomorrow and will hold three or four weeks beyond its present two, with "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" following. The Music Hall's film, plus a stage show, did $70,000 in five days ending Sunday and should end the seven-day period with a good $111,000, following its $130,000 opening week, which was sec-

(*Continued on page 8*)

WAC to Await WMC Word on Manpower

The distributors' division of the War Activities Committee has decided to await word from Washington before taking any action about the "state of temporary suspension" in which the Chicago office of the War Manpower Commission has placed the request of film exchanges in that area for a "locally needed" designation, and which temporary suspension exists elsewhere.

No Closings For Lack of Repair Parts

New Projectors However Will Continue Scarce

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Motion picture equipment has a very definite place in the reconversion program which currently is the subject of controversy between War Production Board chairman Donald M. Nelson and the military authorities, it was learned here today, but no expansion of projector output to even the extent already authorized will be possible until the situation with respect to motors, ball-bearings and electronic components becomes easier.

While it is not expected that any considerable amount of new equipment will become available for some time to come, WPB officials here emphasize that no theatre will have to close for lack of repair parts. These, together with lamps, generators and other necessary items, are coming through in

(*Continued on page 8*)

Clark-Biddle Talk Delayed

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Another of the many delays which have slowed up consideration of the new consent decree occurred today when Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, finding it necessary to leave Washington, postponed his projected decree conference with Attorney General Francis Biddle until the middle of the week or later.

Clark will return to the Department Wednesday, but there was no indication when he and the Attorney General would be able to get together to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Industry Bond Aid 'Great Achievement': Morgenthau

WASHINGTON, July 10.—The motion picture industry has "turned in its best performance in the Fifth War Loan Drive," Henry Mongenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, declared in a statement here today.

At the same time, Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, paid tribute to "showmen of the 'Fighting 5th' drive," and their accomplishments.

(Robert J. O'Donnell, chairman of the industry's 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan Committee at a dinner last night given by his committee to the trade press in recognition of the latter's aid in the fifth drive disclosed that the national fifth drive bond quota had exceeded $17,981,000,000. 'E' bond sales have exceeded $5,000,000,000 against a $6,000,000,000 quota, O'Donnell

(*Continued on page 8*)

Trade Press Cited For 5th Loan Aid

The trade press was officially cited for its cooperation with the industry's 'Fighting Fifth' committee of the Fifth War Loan drive at a dinner at Toots Shor's here last night. R. J. O'Donnell, national Chairman, and the Committee were hosts.

O'Donnell and Ray Beall, national publicity director, expressed the committee's appreciation to the trade press and urged its continued support for theatres' bond selling activities through July. Advertising directors who cooperated in the campaign were also present.

22 Buy Nearly 53 Millions in Bonds

Corporate purchases of Fifth War Loan securities by distributors companies and large circuits amounted to $52,845,000, according to Leonard Goldenson, industry chairman of cor-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

JOHN J. O'CONNOR, Universal vice-president, celebrated his 48th birthday yesterday.

•

JAMES B. ZABIN, general manager of Cinema Circuit, New York, is the author of a story, "Bust Up," which appears in the July issue of *Mayfair Magazine*.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, assistant general manager of Warner Theatres, left over the weekend for Chicago and Milwaukee and is expected to return late this week.

•

ORVILLE RENNIE of Tri-States' Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, Ia., has been elected to the board of directors of the local Rotary Club.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, Warner Bros. Eastern talent bureau head, left yesterday for a week's trip to Chicago and Cleveland.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux Theatres vice-president, became the father of a baby boy born yesterday to MRS. ELSON at New York Hospital.

•

CHARLES RICH, Warner district sales manager in Cleveland, and MRS. RICH, celebrated their 20th anniversary over the weekend.

•

SI FABIAN, independent circuit operator and WAC official, was in Norfolk yesterday and will be in Richmond today.

•

NORMAN CASTLE, publicity director for the Essaness Circuit, Chicago, will leave on a vacation August 1.

•

G. R. FRANK, United Artists' Indianapolis branch manager, has been visiting the UA Chicago branch.

•

JAMES COSTON, Warner Theatres Chicago zone manager, is at his Eagle River, Wis., summer home.

•

HENRY KORN, head of the service department of National Screen Service, is in Chicago on business.

•

RODNEY COLLIER, manager of the Stanley, Baltimore, is vacationing in Pennsylvania mountains.

•

MORRIS MECHANIC, owner of the New Theatre, Baltimore, is in New York for several days.

•

IRVING YERGIN of the Warner home office publicity department left last night for California.

AuClair Dies in Action

GENEVA, N. Y., July 10.—Pfc. Elliott AuClair, formerly of Schine's Geneva Theatre here, died of wounds received in action in the Marshall Islands, according to word received by his parents from the War Department. Pfc. AuClair, a Marine, was buried at sea.

Robot Bombs Hit Theatre Grosses

Business at London film theatres have been hard hit by the robot bombs according to press dispatches from London. It was estimated that most West End houses are losing about $2,000 daily. There has been no talk of closing the film houses, possibly because most of them can afford the losses much better than stage theatres.

Poor attendance at the London legitimate theatres has closed 24 West End shows since the robot blitz began; only 10 shows now remain open.

T. & D. Acquires 4 Walsh Theatres

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—Four Sacramento Valley theatres were acquired in a transaction announced here by M. A. Naify, president and general manager of T. & D. Enterprises. In association with Golden State Theaters, T. & D. operates a large group of houses throughout Northern California.

Involved in the transaction are the State and Tower in Marysville; Smith Theater, Yuba City; and the Butte at Gridley, all leased from the family of the late Morgan A. Walsh, pioneer exhibitor and film man. In addition to a fixed rental, the consideration involves participation by the Walsh family in the profits of the four houses, according to L. S. Hamm, San Francisco attorney, who handled the legal matters involved.

M-G-M to Trade Show Eight New Films

"The Seventh Cross" will be screened at all exchanges on July 19. "Dragon Seed" will be shown July 20 in Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Omaha, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Washington, and on July 21 in Albany, Buffalo, Des Moines, Indianapolis, Memphis, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh and St. Louis, and on July 28 in Atlanta, Charlotte, Dallas, Denver, New Haven, Oklahoma City, Portland (Ore.), Salt Lake City and Seattle.

"Barbary Coast Gent" will be shown at all exchanges on Aug. 1. Tentative dates have been set for screenings of three other new M-G-M films as follows: "Maisie Goes to Reno" and "Lost in a Harem," Aug. 10; "Marriage Is a Private Affair," Aug. 14, and "Kismet" and "Mrs. Parkington," Aug. 28.

Gas Rationing Cuts Drive-In Grosses

CLEVELAND, July 10.—Gas rationing has noticeably cut attendance at local Drive-In theatres, it is reported here by Philip Smith, owner of several Drive-Ins in this area.

Post-midnight shows, introduced for night-shift defense workers, have obtained only moderate audiences.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 10

MORT SPRING, president of Loew's International Corp., M-G-M's foreign selling organization, is here for a couple of weeks of conferences with L. B. Mayer and other executives.

•

Paul Henried gets the top male role in the remake of "Of Human Bondage," which will start Wednesday at Warners under the direction of Edmund Goulding and the producer sponsorship of Henry Blanke.

•

John W. Considine, Jr., is back at his desk at M-G-M after a knee operation and is advancing plans accordingly for "Seattle" and "The Church of the Good Thief."

•

Herman Gluckman, WAC treasurer and distribution representative is due here at the weekend for a two-months stay.

•

Gregory Ratoff's condition after an emergency operation at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital was reported "good."

•

Ray Milland will have the star role in "Lost Weekend," for Paramount following his assignment in "Kitty."

•

20th-Fox exercised its option for the services of Lynn Bari.

•

Arnold Albert, Warner short subject producer, has returned here.

MGM's Howard Dietz 'Transatlantic Quiz'

Howard Dietz, vice-president and advertising manager of M-G-M, will join the American team on "Transatlantic Quiz," the Blue Network-British Broadcasting Corp. weekly feature, beginning July 15.

Replacing Russell Crouse, author-producer, Dietz will share the American spot with writer Christopher Morley. Heard Saturdays from 1:15 to 1:30 p.m., EWT, the program presents the American and British teams conversing across the Atlantic.

Schoenstadt Case Off to Sept. 11

CHICAGO, July 10.—At the request of attorneys, the Anti-Trust hearing in the action filed by Schoenstadt Theatres against distributors and the Warner and B and K circuits has again been continued, this time Sept. 11, before Master of Chancery Charles A. McDonald.

Boucher Remains

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Frank Boucher, recently reported to be joining the Weiselman circuit in Charlotte, will remain in his post of general manager with K-B Theatres in Washington, it was reported by Fred S. Kogod, president of K-B.

Services For Seitz Today on Coast

LOS ANGELES, July 10.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon for George Seitz, 56, at the Church of the Recessional. Private interment will be in Forest Lawn cemetery.

Seitz, veteran director associated with M-G-M since 1930, died at the weekend following a heart attack.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT in
"ONCE UPON A TIME"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
First N. Y. Showing
'SENSATIONS OF 1945'
STARRING ELEANOR POWELL
IN PERSON
GRACIE BARRIE
BENNY RUBIN

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

PARAMOUNT'S
"GOING MY WAY"
with BING CROSBY
In Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK and His Orch.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

FILM CLASSICS
DEAD END
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 47 ST. GOTHAM
Eddie CANTOR-
KID FROM SPAIN
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
MAURER'S B'WAY & 46 ST. VICTORIA

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THE $64 QUESTION

What's the greatest SURPRISE picture in years from the company with plenty of HITS

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NEVER ANYTHING LIKE IT!

SO MANY STARS! SO MUCH ENTERTAINMENT!
THE MOST NOVEL BOX-OFFICE WALLOP IN YEARS!

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

PHIL BAKER



WHO IS IT?

The nation's No. 1 pin up girl with the classy chassis and gams what ams!

WHO IS IT?

What a figure! What a voice! Your faye-vorite singing star!

WHO IS IT?

Band-leader . . . a real solid sender on the slide trombone . . . no run-of-the-miller is he!

WHO IS IT?

Cute number who cuts quite a figure on ice! One of Hollywood's best skates!

. . . and they're only a few of the all-star surprises!

PHIL BAKER in "TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT" with EDWARD RYAN • MARJORIE MASSOW • STANLEY PRAGER • Directed by Benjamin Stoloff • Produced by Bryan Foy • Screen Play by Harold Buchman, Snag Werris and Mac Benoff

The All-Star, All Song, All-Laugh Hit Parade

IT'S 20th CENTURY-FOX'S ANSWER TO ALL YOUR ENTERTAINMENT QUESTIONS!

NEVER STOP TILL YOU'RE OVER THE TOP! FIGHTING FIFTH WAR LOAN!

20th CENTURY-FOX

The Company with plenty of hITS

WING AND A PRAYER
(THE STORY OF CARRIER X)

HOME IN INDIANA
IN TECHNICOLOR

THE EVE OF ST. MARK

PIN UP GIRL
IN TECHNICOLOR

BUFFALO BILL
IN TECHNICOLOR

THE SONG OF BERNADET

COMING

THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN 50
YEARS OF MOTION PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT!

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S **WILSON**

Directed by HENRY KING Written for the Screen by Lamar Trotti

IN TECHNICOLOR

PRINTED IN

To Telecast Democrats

(Continued from page 1)

tial nomination. The film, augmented by commentary supplied by NBC commentators, will be televised over WNBT before telecasting actual shots of convention proceedings.

According to Ralph B. Austrian, executive vice-president of RKO Television, the telecasting reporting of the Democratic convention will be on a far more thorough scale than was the Republican convention. Improvements in technique have been made which will be put into effect for the Democrats, Austrian said here yesterday.

Four crews of Pathe camera and sound men will operate both at the Chicago Stadium and at the hotels there where delegates will be quartered. Each day's shooting will be flown to New York and processed for telecasting the following day. In the case of the Republican convention, the film on the opening day of the convention was shown the same day with the developing and editing process being accomplished within three-and-one-half hours and NBC using the negative for telecasting without waiting for positive prints.

Telecasting of the convention proceedings via films will be more extensive than newsreel coverage, it was said. WNBT's video presentation of the convention will also be carried by WPTZ, Philadelphia, and WRGB, Schenectady.

Cohn and Montague At Coast Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

will open the session and will then turn the meeting over to A. Montague, general sales manager, who will preside during the remainder of the sessions. Both Montague and Rube Jackter, assistant sales manager, will address the delegates. George Josephs, manager of sales accounting; Hank Kaufman, manager of exchange operations; Joseph A. McConville, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and Joseph Friedman, managing director of Great Britain, will also be present.

The following managers and salesmen from the six exchanges of the Western division are here for the meeting:

Los Angeles: Western division manager Jerome Safron and Wayne Ball, Larry Kennedy, Bert Lentz and Edward Ashkins; Denver: R. C. Hill, Barney Shooker, Gay Storm Pinnell and Thomas J. Robinson; Portland: James Beale, Clarence Tillman and Warren Withers; Salt Lake City: William Seib, Harold Green, Gus Gusterson and Kenneth Lloyd; San Francisco: Jack Tillman, Carl Scott, Phil Weinstein and Torey Roberts; Seattle: Neil Walton, Willard R. Seale and Keith Beckwith.


FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

48 Films in Long Range Plans of United Artists

(Continued from page 1)

pictures in the planning stage, in addition to five completed and awaiting release, four in production and 11 nearing final script and casting stages.

Edward C. Raftery, president, referred to the program as "the greatest forward step taken by the company in its history," a UA statement said, adding: "It was made possible not only by constructive ground work along production lines but by rearrangement of company management."

Pictures completed and awaiting release are: David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" and "Double Furlough," Hunt Stromberg's "Guest in the House," Edward Small's "Abroad with Two Yanks," and Seymour Nebenzal's "Summer Storm."

The four pictures now before the cameras are: Benedict Bogeaus' "Dark Waters," Sol Lesser's "3 Is a Family," Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World" and Bing Crosby's first for UA, "The Great John L."

The balance of the company's lineup includes product from the following producers:

Vanguard will deliver "The House of Dr. Edwardes," Sol Lesser, "Civilian Clothes"; and Benedict Bogeaus' "There Goes Lona Henry." William Cagney Prod. will account for "Blood on the Sun," "Port Royal," "Only the Valiant," "Bugles in the Afternoon," "The Stray Lamb" and an untitled story. Lester Cowan plans "G. I. Joe" and "Woman of the Sea." From Charles R. Rogers will come "High Among the Stars," "My Wild Irish Rose," "Angel on My Shoulder" and "One Man's Family."

Edward Small's program calls for "When the Cat's Away," "Bella Donna," "Cagliostro," "Valentino," "Notorious Nancy Grey," "Kate Fennigate," "Twin Beds" and "Brewster's Millions"; Hunt Stromberg's: "Dishonored Lady" and "This Is Life"; Producing Artists: "Love Is Where You Find It," "High Spirit," "Singing City," "The Blackbirder" and "Of Thee I Sing"; Producers Corporation: "This Crazy, Lovely World," "The New Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," "The Old West" and "O'Brien's Navy"; Seymour Nebenzal: "Mayerling" and "S.S. Titanic," and Andrew Stone's "Miss America," "Sensations of 1946" and "Victory Parade."

Seated on the dais yesterday, in addition to Raftery, Sears and Leserman, were J. J. Unger, Harry Gold, Edward Schnitzer and Louis Pollock. Among other home office executives in attendance were: Harry Buckley, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Charles Steele, Walter Gould, Harry Muller, Phil Dow, Manny Silverstone, Steve McGrath and Jack Wrege. The following producers and representatives joined the district and branch managers at luncheon: Grace Rosenfield, Hugh Huber, Fred Wilkins, Budd Rogers, Seymour Poe, Harry Kosiner, Skip Weshner, Seymour Nebenzal, Edward Peskay, Henry Brash, Neil Agnew, Hugh Owen, John Harkins, William Heineman, Lowell Calvert, Jules Levey, Dennis O'Keefe and Joseph Cotten.

The delegates attended a special screening of "Since You Went Away" late in the afternoon. Today's session will be devoted to sales policies on forthcoming product.

UA Board Will Defer Plans for Expansion

The United Artists board of directors will hold its regular monthly meeting here today but is not expected to act upon plans for acquiring theatres in this country and abroad and for expanding the company's studio facilities. Following the board's annual meeting on June 2, a UA statement said the members would consider such plans prior to the next meeting, but president Edward C. Raftery disclosed yesterday that the project was not far enough advanced for activities at this time.

Film Stars in Charity Broadcast to Mexico

HOLLYWOOD, July 10.—Hedy Lamarr, Bing Crosby, Arturo de Cordova, Esther Fernandez, Carlos Ramirez, John Loder and Jinx Falkenburg, all speaking Spanish, took part late last week in the first direct broadcast from Hollywood to Mexico City. The program, sponsored by the Mexican government for hospital charities, was arranged by the local office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Lopez Mendez, president of the Radio Guild of Mexico, was master of ceremonies, and Dezi Arnaz introduced four Purple Heart winners of Mexican extraction who served with the American Army in Sicily and are now patients at the Birmingham Hospital, San Ferdando Valley.

Reel Fellows to Variety

CHICAGO, July 10.—Local Variety has voted the entire Reel Fellows Club, which comprises some 40 local film salesmen, into its membership. The local tent also voted to hold its annual outing and golf tournament at Hickory Hill here on July 26.

22 Buy Nearly 53 Millions in Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

poration investments for the fifth drive. Following are the companies and the amounts of their purchases, as reported to Chas. C. Moskowitz, general chairman for the New York area:

Paramount Pictures, $15,000,000; 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres, $11,000,000; Loew's, $10,000,000; Warner Brothers, $5,000,000; RKO Radio, $4,000,000; Universal, $3,500,000; Columbia, $2,220,000; United Artists, $500,000; Randforce Circuit, $250,000; United Artists Theatre Circuit, Republic Pictures and National Screen, each $200,000; Century Circuit, $150,000; Skouras Theatres, Wilmer and Vincent and J. J. Theatres, each $100,000; Telenews Theatres and Trans Lux, each $75,000; Fabian Theatres, $65,000; Shea Enterprises, $60,000; Prudential Circuit, $50,000.

Ky. Tax Revenue Up

FRANKFORT, Ky., July 10.—Amusement tax receipts in Kentucky totaled $1,072,443 for 1943-1944.

Clark-Biddle Talk Delayed

(Continued from page 1)

go over the completed proposals of the distributors.

A late proposal to limit the new agreement to three years flat or two years after the end of the war, whichever is shorter, is seen in Washington as further tilting the scales toward acceptance of the decree by the Government, although in some authoritative quarters there has been a decided impression that a new decree would be accepted on the basis of the companies' offer rather than take the matter into court at this time.

It was pointed out that a short-term arrangement would carry the situation over until it could be considered in an atmosphere free of war strain and at a time when the Government's post-war economic program had jelled and was in process of being carried out. By that time, too, the international trade situation may have been clarified, a matter of considerable importance to the film industry, which normally relies upon foreign markets for much of its profits.

RKO Pension Plan To Treasury Soon

(Continued from page 1)

plan into effect for all its employes with the exception of production talent such as producers, directors, writers, actors and actresses, seasonal and part-time employes at the beginning of this year with credits accruing since then.

Loew's has secured an unofficial approval from the Treasury for a pension plan for all its employes, including production personnel. The plan will be submitted to the company's stockholders for approval July 18. Should the plan be approved and be put into operation, final official approval will also have to be secured from the Treasury as in the case of RKO.

Rites for E. Collins, Interstate Manager

SAN ANTONIO, July 10.—Funeral services will be held today for Eddie Collins, 49, manager of Interstate Theatres here.

Collins, who died at the weekend has been prominent in the industry for many years. He came to San Antonio eight years ago from Houston where he managed for Interstate. In 1939 he became manager of the Majestic Theatre and three years later was named Interstate manager for the San Antonio territory. Surviving are his widow, Lorna, two daughters, Mrs. Betty Blackburn and Mrs. Jean Hunter, a sister and a grandson.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and
Disc Recording Facilities

$15,500 Washington Gross for 'Marine'

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 10.—The surprise of the week is "Marine Raiders," which looks headed for $15,500 at Keith's. Another business-getter is "Between Two Worlds," which in its second week at Warner's Metropolitan should do an estimated $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

"The Eve of St. Mark" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Romo Vincent. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,200).
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd downtown week On stage: Everett West, Pitchmen. Gross: $18,500. (Average; $19,700).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,600).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000).

'Dr. Wassell' Scores $18,000 in 2nd Week

BALTIMORE, July 10.—Hot weather and holdovers failed to help business at downtown boxoffices. In most instances figures barely hit average. About the best returns of the week are being scored by "The Story of Dr. Wassell," taking $18,000 in its second seven-day period at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,405) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week New stage show: Gene Baylos, Coco, Steve & Eddy, Crosby Sisters, Bert Nagle & Hilja. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,500).
"This Is the Army" (WB)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
VALENCIA—(1,466) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).

PERSONAL!

To any of my celebrated friends who fancy an informal vacation . . . in a high altitude with a low tariff . . . I've got the spot . . . the famous old FAWN CLUB at

LAKE PLACID

Private Golf Course, but no private phones; nice Bar, with birch forests for a backdrop; and nothing gets dressed-up except the food. If you hanker for a July holiday, with SONNY BARKAS as your host, and all the delights of Lake Placid at your command, buzz me at CIrcle 7-7826. (Or call Lake Placid 347.)

CARL ERBE

'Theatre Bond Aid Big Achievement' Says Treasury Head

(*Continued from page* 1)

reported, and for this reason theatres have been asked to continue 'E' bond selling through July.)

Secretary Morgenthau declared: "From early reports reaching me, it is evident that the motion picture industry has made another good record. It has moved forward as a result of hard work and experience in the previous loans to turn in its best performance in the Fifth War Loan Drive. All branches of the industry pitched in to do a whole-hearted job in showmanlike fashion which not only contributed to the success of the drive but adds to a great achievement of wartime service."

Said Gamble: "The showmen of the 'Fighting 5th' War Loan have done a magnificent job of war bond selling. R. J. O'Donnell and his national committee have set the pattern for future bond drives. Their accomplishment has caused the motion picture industry to occupy a most enviable position among all industries during the Fifth War Loan. Their record in 'E' Bond sales has truly created an Honored 16,000 Showmen."

Gamble spent the weekend in New York in conferences with the industry's Fifth War Loan committee to discuss plans for renewed efforts by exhibitors which will help to achieve the country's overall 'E' Bond quota and exceed it.

Gamble pointed out that even though the national Fifth War Loan goal has been oversubscribed, the Treasury is eager to take advantage of the vast publicity and promotion momentum generated by the film industry campaign and urged full-speed ahead in the bond-selling effort to the end of July.

Gamble told the national committee members that the industry is especially valuable to the bond selling program because of its influence on and availability to purchasers of 'E' bonds, the ever-widening purchases of which are extremely important in the fight against inflation—"a fight in which every wage earner and every businessman has a vital personal stake," he said.

Lee Returns to Para. From 5th Loan Post

Claude F. Lee has returned to his post as public relations director for Paramount, having concluded his duties in connection with the Fifth War Loan. During the drive he was attached to War Finance Division of the Treasury Department as motion picture industry and special consultant.

Two Randforce Premieres

Randforce Amusement Corp. reported here yesterday that its Brooklyn Marboro grossed $208,000 at its bond premiere while the Meserole sold 2,000 "E" bonds with a value of $198,000.

Services for Carr

LOS ANGELES, July 10.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Nat Carr, 57, pioneer actor, who died Thursday evening after a long illness.

No Closings for Lack of Parts

(*Continued from page* 1)

sufficient volume to meet all requirements.

The projector manufacturers have available the manpower, tools and facilities for turning out machines, but their operations are limited because of their dependence upon other industries for these most important parts. It is this situation that has made it impossible for the industry to produce even the limited number of projectors authorized by the WPB as far back as the final quarter of last year.

If Nelson's plan for a gradual reconversion of industry goes through, it is expected that seat production may be resumed on a limited scale, and with substitutes for materials not now available, carpeting output may be expanded.

Unfortunately, it was said, projector production is dependent upon the same components as is major military production, and Nelson's program, while designed to encourage civilian output, is so framed as in no way to interfere with the requirements of the Army and Navy. Accordingly, ball-bearings, motors and electronic components will not become available until the output of war equipment is scaled down.

Range Theatre Claim Bookings Delayed

Range Amusement Co., operating the Range Theatre, Hurley, Wis., has filed a clearance complaint with the Milwaukee tribunal of the American Arbitration Association against the Ironwood, Rex and Morgan Theatres, all in Ironwood, Mich., claiming that the 30-day clearance of those houses over the Range is unreasonable. A further complaint holds that the three Ironwood theatres delay booking films for an unreasonable length of time, thus harming business in Hurley, where they cannot be shown first.

Clearance Complaint Dismissed in Detroit

John L. Lovett, arbitrator in the Detroit tribunal, has dismissed the clearance complaint of Sol Winokur, operator of the Ritz theatre, Watervleit, Mich., against M-G-M, Warners, RKO and Paramount, the American Arbitration Association here announced at the weekend.

The arbitrator ruled that the clearance now imposed by the defendants in favor of the Loma and Hart theatres, Hartford, Mich., is not unreasonable and, therefore, denied the complainant relief.

Gift to 'S. S. Warner'

RICHMOND, Cal., July 10.—Complete 16mm. sound projection equipment and prints of five Warner pictures have been presented to officers and crew of the *S. S. Benjamin Warner* as a gift from Harry M. and Jack Warner. The films include: "Action in the North Atlantic," "Watch on the Rhine," "Adventures of Mark Twain," "Casablanca" and "Princess O'Rourke."

The new Liberty Ship was named after the father of the Warner Brothers.

Hottest Weekend in Years Deflates Broadway Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

ond highest in the history of the house "Dragon Seed" is set to follow o July 20.

Tenth and final week of "Going M Way" and a stage bill headed Charlie Spivak's orchestra at Paramount will end this evening wit about $67,000, tying the long-run rec ord of "Lady in the Dark" and top ping it in total attendance, 1,007,000 "And the Angels Sing," with a stag bill featuring Jerry Wald's orchestra will open there today. Starting simul taneously will be "Take It Or Leav It" and Duke Ellington's orchestra a the Roxy, where "Home in Indiana" and Endic Madriguera's orchestra i grossing a poor $59,000 for its third and last week, with $44,000 counted through Sunday. A similar farewel slump hit, "The Mask of Dimitrios," at the Strand, where Louis Prima's orchestra is on stage; $16,000 was taken in for three days through Sunday, indicating $43,000 for the third week of the run. Opening there Friday will be "The Adventures of Mark Twain," supported by the Vincent Lopez orchestra.

Films holding over despite poor total receipts for the current period include "Bathing Beauty," which will end a $20,000 week, its second, at the Astor today, and "Mr. Skeffington," which took in $11,000 at the Hollywood for four days through Sunday, presaging $17,800 for its seventh week. The latter's run will be stretched over at least another month. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Rivoli, grossing $34,000 in its fifth week through today, will hold a week or so longer before "Frenchman's Creek" enters the house; and "Two Girls and a Sailor," plus Sammy Kaye's orchestra, will continue at the Capitol until the July 20 arrival of "Since You Went Away." Fourth week of the Capitol show will register $62,000 on the basis of $45,500 for five days through Sunday. "The Mummy's Ghost" will end Thursday at the Rialto after a $6,500 second week, to be followed by "Jungle Woman" on Friday.

Among the reissues, "The Kid from Spain" at the Victoria will bow out after doing $8,000 in its second week, with "Minstrel Man" opening there Saturday. Other revivals, slated to continue, include "Dead End" at the Gotham, which rang up $4,000 for two days through Sunday and should gross $11,000 in its second week, and "Fantasia" at the Manhattan, also in its second week, which showed $2,500 for a similar weekend period and is headed for $10,000. "The Hairy Ape," a new film, continuing at the Globe, will finish its second week Friday with $15,000, following a $5,000 weekend.

Ed. Ruff to Boston

NEW HAVEN, July 10.—Edward G. Ruff, for the past seven years manager of the Paramount exchange in New Haven, has been named manager of that company's Boston exchange. His associates here recently honored him at a testimonial dinner. John Moore will succeed Ruff in his former post.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 7 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

U.A. Directors Approve 15 More Pictures

Board Also Passes on Color Cartoon Shorts

Approval of contracts for 15 additional productions were voted yesterday by the board of directors of United Artists, meeting here at the home office, under the chairmanship of Edward C. Raftery.



Edward C. Raftery

The 15 pictures add to the 48 disclosed on Monday by Gradwell L. Sears, distribution vice-president, at the company's sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria, in line with the company's "long-range" re-

(Continued on page 7)

13,949 5th Loan Events

A total of 13,949 pledged and registered special events were held in theatres during the Fifth War Loan, according to a tabulation made by the industry's Fifth War

(Continued on page 8)

Executive Board at Paramount Studio

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Reports persist that the Paramount studio eventually will function under an executive board, a system similar to that prevailing at M-G-M, following the assumption by Henry Ginsberg this week of the post of general manager in charge of production. Ginsberg will continue also as vice-president and general studio manager, duties he has held since Feb., 1940, according to Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of studio operations.

The immediate shift is the out-

(Continued on page 8)

Scales Up 50% for Selznick's 'SYWA'

David Selznick's "Since You Went Away" will be sold on a policy requiring increased admissions of a 50 percent over regular scales at single-featured performances, it was disclosed here yesterday by Carl Leserman, United Artists' general sales manager, at the conclusion of the company's eastern sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

700% Increase in Army Projectors

WASHINGTON, July 11.—A 700 percent increase in the number of projectors available to Army units overseas has been accomplished since March, 1943, it was reported here today by the Army Pictorial Service.

Summarizing the second year's operation of the Overseas Motion Picture Service branch, the APS disclosed that it has accomplished its objective of giving men in the average overseas unit three new films each week and has increased the number of projectors available from 421 to more than 3,200. On an average night the Army shows the latest pictures to almost 2,000 field units at stations circling the world, not including shows

(Continued on page 7)

M-G-M to Dub Its Future Product For Latin-America

M-G-M after a year of preparation, has decided to dub its future output in Spanish, marking its 'invasion' of the Latin-American market with dubbed pictures. The program, which will bid for the virtually 'unlimited revenue' envisaged South of the border, calls for first dubbed releases sometime in December or January according to a company spokesman.

Morton Spring, acting manager of the company's international department, declared that, "There has been a persistent and growing demand from Spanish-speaking audiences throughout the Western hemisphere for Spanish sound tracks to replace titles."

Already in work here in New York are three of its current top-flight features: "The White Cliffs of Dover,"

(Continued on page 6)

Cohn Is Columbia's Executive Producer

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Harry Cohn, president of Columbia Pictures, has absorbed the executive producership of the company's studio here. Sidney Buchman, former executive producer, will, under a new deal, head his own unit to produce two pictures annually over a long period. Buchman's first two will be "Over 21" and "Jacobowsky and the Colonel."

New Franchise Deals for All PRC Holders

Guarantees Ended; Can Book Outside Product

By TOM LOY

Franchise holders of PRC's 30 exchanges will hereafter work under an entirely new arrangement, it was learned here yesterday, following MOTION PICTURE DAILY's exclusive report on Monday that Nat L. Lefton, franchise holder in the Cleveland and Cincinnati territories, had been elected to speak for all other franchise owners in future negotiations and dealings with the company.

Negotiations, it develops, have resulted in the junking of all previously existing franchise agreements and the signing of new ones, drastically revamped. All guarantees on payment for product, past, present and future, have been

(Continued on page 6)

Raise Sound Service Rate

Altec Service and RCA Sound Service will shortly announce increases of about 10 percent in their rates for servicing theatre sound equipment, as a result of the new contracts negotiated by the two companies with the IATSE

(Continued on page 8)

Distribute $50,000 Back Pay in Film Exchanges

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

Loew's 20th Century-Fox and United Artists has started the distribution of $40,000 in retroactive pay increases and overtime payments to over 100 office workers in their New York film exchanges in compliance with a recent War Labor Board decision which rejected their appeal from the regional board's decision here. The workers are represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO.

Loew's also agreed to a voluntary restitution of an additional $10,825 in back pay for overtime work to 648 checkers in its 31 film exchanges, according to Arthur J. White, regional director of the wage and hour and public contracts division of the U. S. Department of Labor.

Payment of the retroactive pay to the "white collarites" represents a 15

(Continued on page 6)

WAC Honors Scully, Rodgers, Richey

William A. Scully, William F. Rodgers and Henderson Richey, who served terms at the head of the War Activities Committee 'Distributors' Division, received plaques from that division yesterday "in recognition of the excellence of their service."

The awards were made at a WAC meeting at the Hotel Astor by Ned E. Depinet, present chairman of the division. In presenting the plaques, Depinet paid tribute to the efforts of the trio in fashioning the framework of a national all-industry distribution plan.

B. P. Schulberg Joins Vanguard

HOLLYWOOD, Juy 11.—B. P. Schulberg, veteran producer and production executive, who was associated with David O. Selznick for several years prior to 1940, has joined Selznick's Vanguard Films and Selznick Enterprises, where he will function in an administrative capacity on the business management side.

Schulberg's history with the industry stretches back beyond 1912, when he helped Adolph Zukor launch Famous Players. He was managing director of production for Paramount and a Columbia production executive as well as a producer independently. His most recent connection, with Columbia, was severed in February, 1943.

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio general sales manager, and NAT LEVY, Eastern district sales manager, left last night for Detroit.

•

EDWARD J. GABRIEL, manager of the Capitol exchange in Philadelphia, is recuperating from a nose and throat operation at the Jewish Hosptial there.

•

RONALD R. AMES, Columbia Southwestern publicity representative, and MARIE LINDENBERG, of Dallas, were married in Dallas Monday.

•

MOE. SILVER, Warner Theatres Pittsburgh zone manager, arrived in New York yesterday for home office conferences.

•

JACK BENNY and BOB HOPE will be in Chicago the week of July 19 to attend the Democratic National Convention.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner short subject sales manager, returned yesterday from Newport, R. I.

•

NEILL FLETCHER of the Palace Theatre, Dallas, and MRS. FLETCHER are the parents of a seven pound boy.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL of Universal left last night on a visit to the company's Detroit and Chicago exchanges.

•

JACK PARVER, manager of the Eastwood in East Hartford, Conn., is vacationing in New York.

•

JOE HOLTON, 20th Century-Fox talent scout, is in Chicago this week.

HalWallisDeveloping Own Stock Company

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—In what is believed to be the initial step toward developing his own stock company, Hal Wallis has signed Ann Richards, feminine star of "An American Romance," to an exclusive long-term contract.

Meanwhile, Wallis has concluded negotiations for the film rights to "The Searching Wind," Lillian Helman's new play now running on Broadway in a Herman Shumlin production. Either this or "The Love Letters," also now owned by Wallis, will be his first picture for Paramount release.

'Cover' in Normandy

Columbia here reports that the first U. S. motion picture to be shown on Normandy's beachheads, following the 'D-Day' invasion, was "Cover Girl," according to information received from Col. E. L. Munson, chief of the Army Motion Picture Service. The musical was seen by the invading armies June 16, 10 days after 'D-Day.'

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, July 11

WHAT about color? The manifestations are clear enough and line up in this approximate order:

Color costs money. Because it costs more than black-and-white, the history of producing companies shows they never undertake tints unless prosperity is going their way. Today, of course, prosperity—lots of it—is parked in every company's alley. Therefore, the answer is self-evident.

Probably without challenge would be the conclusion for the producer-at-large that color enhances values, rolls back production boundaries, carries definite impact at the box-office. When the vehicle allows, consequently, it is to color they turn.

■

This does not mean a gentle or a violent death looms suddenly for films in black-and-white. The percentage, of course, continues in the old corner and is expected to remain there certainly until the war is over and pressures on manpower and technical power ease into a peacetime norm.

Brightly-hued enthusiasms of the color advocates quite naturally foresee the time when solid tones will be as old-fashioned as the nostalgic silent picture, but this is a partisan view which would be neither brightly-hued nor disciple-like if any other kind of rainbow were acknowledged.

■

The facts also are, however, that color which almost invariably carries "Techni" as its inevitable prefix at this juncture would surge forward with much more acceleration if circumstances allowed. But Technicolor's facilities are devoted to blank percentage of total resources and blank proportion of manpower to confidential work for the armed services.

Even the pleasant Dr. Herbert Kalmus, who once took evident pleasure and pride in escorting visitors through his whirring plant as pleasantly today has to decline because blank areas of that plant are functioning behind restricted and confidential doors.

■

Nevertheless and as usual, there are statistics. Finished and ready for general release are 16 features nicely Technicolored. Metro, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox lead off with four each. Universal has two, RKO and Columbia one apiece.

In production are eight, all of them seemingly geared for distribution next season. Metro tops this division with three, Universal snuggles close with a brace, while Columbia, RKO and 20th-Fox each have one.

Always allowing for production casualties, born of change of heart and contributary reasons, are another dozen in preparation. Here the lineup undergoes changes. Metro is in there with two as is Fox, but RKO moves alongside. Universal figurese in two, likewise Paramount. Twentieth Century-Fox and Warner calculate one each.

■

Finally, definite are those 16 finished and those eight shooting. If today's third group holds, the total will rise to 36. Whether all will hit the market during 1944-45 becomes guesswork, and guesswork is as dubious as it always has been.

There must be taken well into account the classic difference which pervades the current state of affairs: A picture produced is not necessarily a picture immediately released.

Examples: "The Adventures of Mark Twain" was completed in September, 1942, and only now shows. "Arsenic and Old Lace" was finished in September, 1941, and hasn't shown yet.

■ ■

If you are one to whom statistics hold appeal, ogle this:

The 20 officers of Loew's, Inc., have been identified with the company a total of 483 years. Nicholas M. Schenck is lead all with 36. Joe Vogel is a close contender in long distance at 35. "Lep" Friedman counts 33, and Charie Moskowitz 31. Youngest in point of continuous service are Al Lichtman and Nicky Nayfack. Their scorecard reads eight.

On the Hollywood ledger is an entry for Louis B. Mayer. Just a beginner. Only 30 years for him.

■ ■

How goes it with Monogram? Like this: Net for 29 weeks, before taxes, $410,076, comparing with $100,041 in the identical preceding period. Net, after taxes, $149,642. Comparative figure, $43,305.

Oaks and acorns. Remember?

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July

CAPT. LEE TRACEY, honorab discharged from the Army, h been signed by RKO for the lead "Betrayal from the East," Herm Schlom production directed by W liam Berke.

•

Gail Patrick, who arrived in Jac sonville, Fla., Saturday, on a bo tour, was married there today Lieut. Arnold White, who is st tioned with the Naval Air Transpo Service at Miami.

•

"Dangerous Marriage," mystery r mance by Virginia Perone, has be placed on Warners' 1944-45 schedu Zachary Scott will play the lead, fo lowing "San Antonio," which is ne on his program.

•

James Melton, having complete work in M-G-M's "Ziegfeld Follies soon will head East for a month his Connecticut farm and will sta a 48-city concert tour Oct. 3.

•

The will of Henry Thalberg, fath of Irving Thalberg, leaves the bulk his estate, valued in excess of $100 000, to his widow, Mrs. Henriet Thalberg.

•

Walter Lantz will increase h "Woody Woodpecker" cartoons fo Universal from four to seven ne season.

•

Joseph Bercholz, former Europea producer, has signed to make two film for Republic.

•

Universal has exercised its optio on Gloria Jean's contract.

Hugh Bruen Accepts WPB Invitation

LOS ANGELES, July 11.—Hug Bruen, trustee of the Pacific Coas Conference of Independent Theatr Owners today accepted the War Pro duction Board's invitation to serve o the National Advisory Committee o the theatre industry. He will leave o July 17 to attend the first meeting i Washington scheduled July 20.

Trade Press Showing For Selznick's 'Away

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—David Selz nick announced the trade press screen ing for "Since You Went Away," a the Carthay Circle Theatre next Mon day night. The picture will not open here for the public until late summer.

Sugarman Joins G. A.

Eli Sugarman, former editor and general manager of the New York office of *Billboard*, recently honorably discharged from the U. S. Army, has joined General Amusement Corp. He will be associated with Harry Kilby in acts for restaurants and cafes.

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M-G-M TRADE SHOWINGS

CITY	PLACE ADDRESS	DAY, DATE AND HOURS OF SCREENING					
		THE SEVENTH CROSS		DRAGON SEED		BARBARY COAST GENT	
ALBANY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1052 Broadway	WED. 7/19	8 P.M	FRI. 7/21	8 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	8 P.M.
ATLANTA	20th-Fox Screen Room 197 Walton St., N.W.	WED. 7/19	10:30 A. M.	FRI. 7/28	10:30 A.M.	TUES. 8/1	10:30 A.M.
BOSTON	M-G-M Screen Room 46 Church Street	WED. 7/19	10 A.M. Also: 2:15 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	10 A.M. Also: 2:15 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	10 A,M. Also: 2:15 P.M.
BUFFALO	20th-Fox Screen Room 290 Franklin Street	WED. 7/19	8 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	8 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	8 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	20th-Fox Screen Room 308 South Church Street	WED. 7/19	1:30 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	1:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
CHICAGO	H. C. Igel's Screen Room 1301 South Wabash Ave.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
CINCINNATI	RKO Screen Room 16 East Sixth Street	WED. 7/19	7 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	7 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	7 P.M.
CLEVELAND	20th-Fox Screen Room 2219 Payne Avenue	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
DALLAS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1803 Wood Street	WED. 7/19	2:30 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	2:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	2:30 P.M.
DENVER	Paramount Screen Room 2100 Stout Street	WED. 7/19	2 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	2 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	2 P.M.
DES MOINES	20th-Fox Screen Room 1300 High Street	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
DETROIT	Max Blumenthal's Sc. Rm. 2310 Cass Avenue	WED. 7/19	1:30 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 326 No. Illinois Street	WED. 7/19	10:30 A.M.	FRI. 7/21	10:30 A.M.	TUES. 8/1	10:30 A.M.
KANSAS CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 1720 Wyandotte St.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	20th-Fox Screen Room 2019 South Vermont Ave.	WED. 7/19	2:30 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	2:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	2:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 151 Vance Avenue	WED. /19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Warner Screen Room 212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	WED. 7/19	1:30 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	1:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	20th-Fox Screen Room 1015 Currie Avenue	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	20th-Fox Screen Room 40 Whiting Street	WED. 7/19	10:30 A.M.	FRI. 7/28	10:30 A.M.	TUES. 8/1	10:30 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS	20th-Fox Screen Room 200 South Liberty	WED. 7/19	2:30 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
NEW YORK NEW JERSEY	M-G-M Screen Room 630 Ninth Avenue	TUES. 7/18	10:30 A.M. Also: 2:30 P.M.	Previously Trade shown		TUES. 8/1	10:30 A.M. Also: 2:30 P.M.
OKLA'MA CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 10 North Lee Street	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
OMAHA	20th-Fox Screen Room 1502 Davenport	WED. 7/19	1:30 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	M-G-M Screen Room 1233 Summer Street	WED. 7/19	11 A.M. Also: 2 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	11 A.M. Also: 2 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	11 A.M. Also: 2 P.M.
PITTSBURGH	M-G-M Screen Room 1623 Blvd. of Allies	WED. 7/19	2 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	2 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	2 P.M.
PORTLAND	B. F. Shearer Screen Room 1947 N.W. Kearney St.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	S'Renco Screen Room 3143 Olive Street	WED. 7/19	2:30 P.M.	FRI. 7/21	2:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	20th-Fox Screen Room 216 East First Street, So.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
S. FRANCISCO	20th-Fox Screen Room 245 Hyde Street	WED. 7/19	1:30 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1:30 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Jewel Box Preview Theatre 2318 Second Ave.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	FRI. 7/28	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.
WASHINGTON	20th-Fox Screen Room 932 New Jersey, N.W.	WED. 7/19	1 P.M.	THUR. 7/20	1 P.M.	TUES. 8/1	1 P.M.

"The Seventh Cross"— *Spencer Tracy* • "Dragon Seed"— *Katharine Hepburn* • "Barbary Coast Gent"— *Wallace Beery*

M-G-M's NEW STAR

MARGARET O'BRIEN



VARIETY
"Margaret O'Brien, one of the most important stellar properties."

FILM DAILY
"Margaret O'Brien is excellent. The picture is aces."

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
"Endears herself even further with the public."

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
"More enchanting with her every appearance."

DAILY VARIETY
"One of the screen's most winning personalities."

HISTORY REPEATS

Parents' Magazine Annual Award for "most talented juvenile star" again blazes the box-office trail

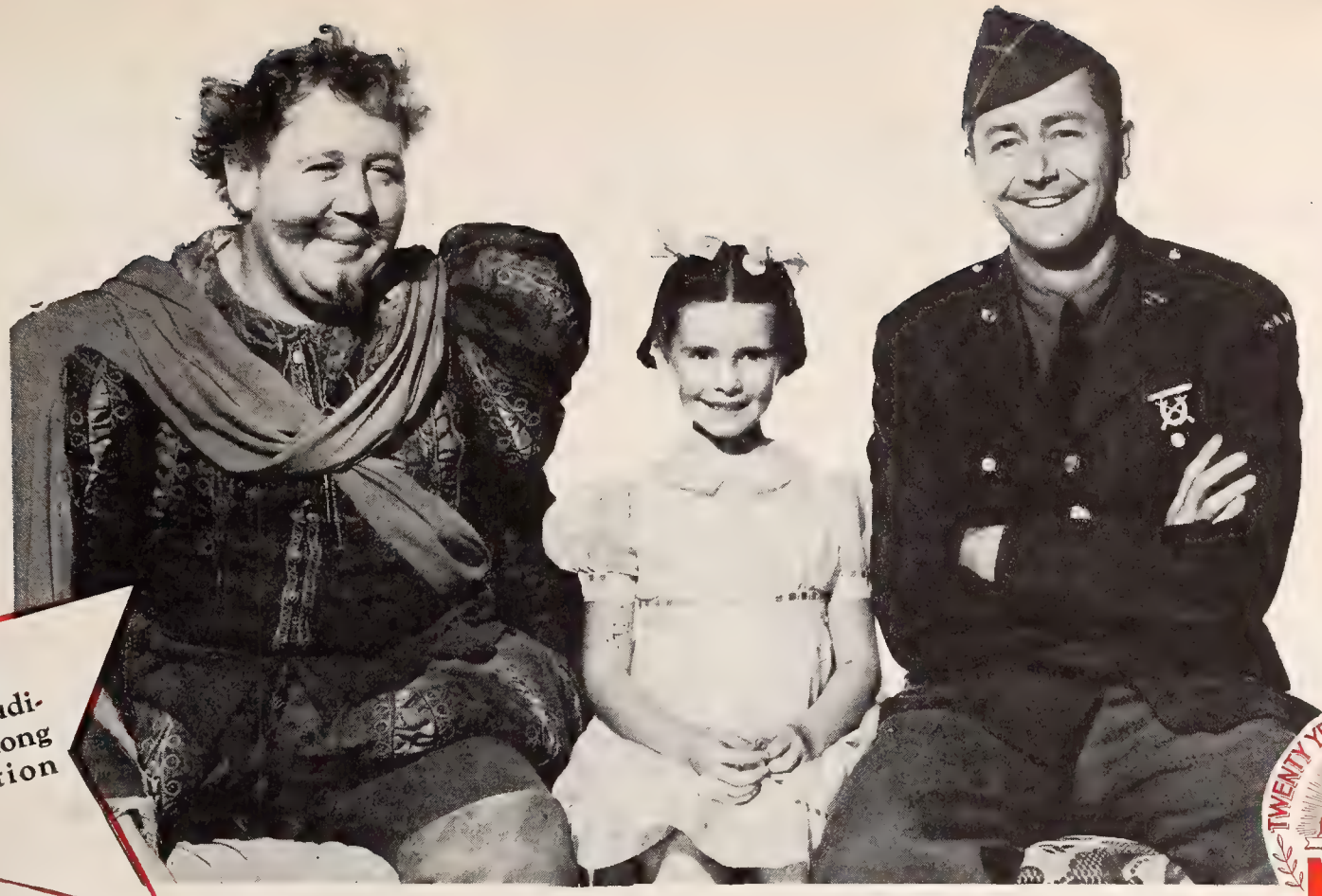


1939
MICKEY ROONEY

And NOW
MARGARET O'BRIEN



WAR BULLETIN! HAVE YOUR BOND SALES FIGURES READY FOR FIFTH WAR LOAN REPORT BLANK!



BOXOFFICE
"Capacity audiences all along its exhibition route."

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924-1944 MGM

M-G-M presents the darling of "Lost Angel" in a glorious Star-Roarious Comedy

THE EXHIBITOR
"A film geared for fun and laughs. Preview audience reaction tops."

MARGARET O'BRIEN
CHARLES LAUGHTON
ROBERT YOUNG

in

The CANTERVILLE GHOST

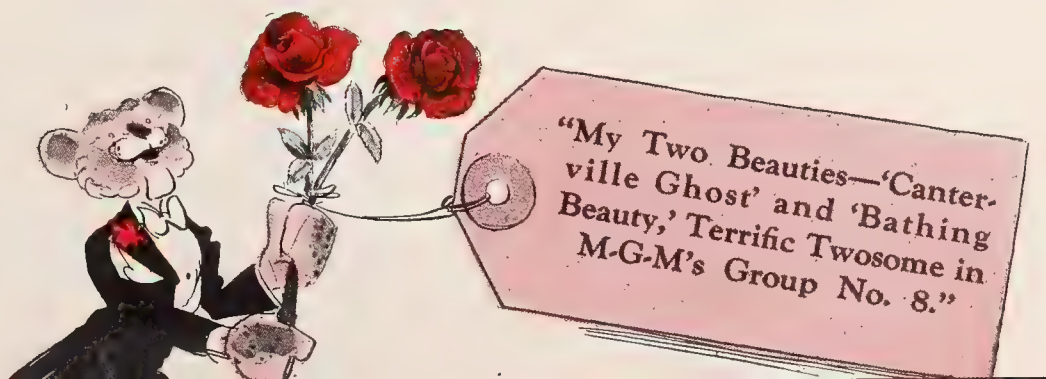
P. DAILY
Customers will get more than their money's worth."

with

WILLIAM GARGAN · REGINALD OWEN · 'RAGS' RAGLAND · UNA O'CONNOR

Screen Play by Edwin Harvey Blum · Based on "The Canterville Ghost" by Oscar Wilde

Directed by JULES DASSIN · Produced by ARTHUR L. FIELD



Coast Filming In Big Drop, From 55 to 44

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Production dropped again last week, as 17 features went to the cutting rooms, and only six went before cameras. The total number in work was 44, compared to 55 during the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Texas Rifles."

Shooting: "Sergeant Mike," "Stalk the Hunter," "Tonight and Every Night," "The Unwritten Code" (formerly "The Unknown").

M-G-M

Finished: "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Shooting: "The Home Front," "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Monogram

Started: "Little Devils," with Harry Carey, Paul Kelly, Ducky Louis, Jimmy Dodd, Ralph Lewis, Gloria Ann Chew, Fred Mah, Hayward Soo Hoo, Philip Ahn.

Finished: "The Utah Kid" (formerly "Trigger Law"), "Shadows of Suspicion" (formerly "Baby Shoes").

PRC

Shooting: "When the Lights Go On Again."

Paramount

Finished: "Double Exposure" (Pine-Thomas).

Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World," "A Medal for Benny," "Her Heart in Her Throat," "Here Come the Waves," "Murder, He Says," "Two Years Before the Mast."

RKO

Started: "Nevada," with Robert Mitchum, Anne Jeffries, Guinn (Big Boy) Williams, Nancy Gates, Craig Reynolds.

Finished: "The Girl Rush," "My Pal Wolf," "Farewell, My Lovely," "Having Wonderful Crime."

Shooting: "The Brighton Strangler."

Republic

Finished: "Firebrands of Arizona," "Man of Mystery," "Atlantic City."

Started: "Flame of Barbary Coast," with John Wayne, Ann Dvorak, Joseph Schildkraut; "Vigilantes of Dodge City," with Bill Elliott, Bobby Blake, Alice Fleming.

Shooting: "My Buddy."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," with Anne Baxter, John Hodiak, Charles Winninger, Bobby Driscoll, Anne Revere, Chill Wills.

Shooting: "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Winged Victory."

United Artists

Shooting: "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus); "Tomorrow the World" (Cowan); "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "The Great John L" (Crosby); "Three's a Family" (Lesser).

Universal

Finished: "The Frozen Ghost," "The Old Texas Trail," "My Baby Loves Music," "Bowery to Broadway."

Started: "Stars Over Manhattan," with the Andrews Sisters, Martha O'Driscoll, Noah Beery, Jr., George Barbier, Marie Harmon.

Shooting: "Can't Help Singing," "Queen of the Nile," "In Society."

Warners

Finished: "Strangers in Our Midst."

Shooting: "The Corn Is Green," "Christmas in Connecticut," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

Review

'Mr. Winkle Goes to War'

(Columbia)

Hollywood, July 11

FIRST picture to deal primarily with the case of servicemen over 38, this Jack Moss production, directed by Alfred E. Green, stars Edward G. Robinson in a role unlike any he has had, combining humor with sympathetic appeal. The film has training camp comedy that clicks and one sequence of the war against the Japs, but it is chiefly a character study of a small town bank clerk determined to get rid of his bookkeeping job and is successful in doing so. Although it neither rocks its audience with laughter nor drenches it in tears, it's solid product, strongest in its command of feminine interest.

Theodore Pratt's book, scripted by Waldo Salt, George Corey and Louis Solomon, presents Robinson as about to open a machine shop, after relinquishing a bank job over his wife's objections, when the call to service arrives. The Army tries to give him a desk job because he's past 40, but he succeeds in getting into Ordnance, declines to be released when the over-38 order comes through, and goes overseas to become a hero. Back home, he disdains the honors which the townsfolk try to confer upon him and proceeds to open his machine shop.

Robinson's support includes Ruth Warrick, Richard Lane, Robert Armstrong, Ted Donaldson and Bob Haymes, wso sings one song. Norman Deming was assistant producer.

Running time, 77 mins. "G."* Release date, June 15.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

M-G-M to Dub for Latin-America

(*Continued from page* 1)

"Gaslight" and "Bathing Beauty," with an extension to others as fast as facilities permit. "Gaslight" will be the first under the new order.

No dfficulty has been encountered by M-G-M in securing an appropriate number of Spanish-speaking players, said a company spokesman, and already from 30 to 40 screen, radio and stage actors have been signed. Dubbing equipment has been leased and writers signed.

Distribution of the Spanish-dubbed features in appropriate theatres in the U. S. will be a question for determination by the domestic sales department, it is understood.

A cautious attitude prevails as to the entry into Spain with this dubbed product for, it is claimed, blocked funds and the problems of producing in that country to satisfy quota requirements may discourage such a move.

In conjunction with M-G-M-'s expansion in the foreign market, Spring has left for the Coast to determine additional product for dubbing into French and Italian other than those previously named by MOTION PICTURE DAILY. This is in line with the backlog of dubbed features which most major companies are building up for release in Europe after the Office of War Information relinquishes control in liberated countries.

Give $50,000 Back Pay to Exchanges

(*Continued from page* 1)

percent increase retroactive to Sept., 1942, in the case of Loew's and 20th-Fox, and to Dec., 1942, to United Artists' workers. The companies will make an additional payment of retroactive overtime to the workers on Friday.

In compliance with the RWLB order, SOPEG expects to sign contracts with the three companies shortly. They will then negotiate for job classifications and new wage scales within a 30-day period as directed in the RWLB directive.

The Loew payment of $10,825 to 648 film checkers is for the period from Oct. 24, 1940, to June 5, 1943, which will bring the company in full compliance with the Federal wage-hour law, according to White. In New York State, 68 checkers working out of the New York City office will be paid $2,226; 17 at the Buffalo branch, $239, and 11 at Albany, $82.

Services for Nat Carr

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Funeral services for Nat Carr, pioneer film actor and Warner Bros. contract player, who died Thursday at his home here, were held here today at the Little Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn. Carr, who was 57, appeared in the first all-talking short made at the old Vitagraph studio. He is survived by his widow, Gertrude Carr, Warner actress.

20th Continues Newscast

Twentieth-Fox has renewed its contract with radio station WEAF for the "World News Roundup" broadcast, heard Wednesdays from 8 A.M. to 8:15 A.M. beginning July 26.

Ind. Tele. Meeting

LOS ANGELES, July 11.—The Pacific Coast Independent Television Producers Association will meet tomorrow.

New Franchise Deals for All PRC Holders

(*Continued from page* 1)

eliminated; and all of PRC's claims against the holders growing out of past guarantees have been discharged.

Elected to function with Lefton on the newly-established Franchise Holders Committee were Henri Ellman of Chicago, George Gill of Washington, D. C., and Ike Katz of Atlanta and Charlotte.

In future, the franchise holders will be permitted, under certain circumstances, to supplement PRC's product for their respective exchanges with that of other companies if PRC fails to deliver satisfactorily. At least partly responsible for this clause is understood to be an old grievance that came to a head when PRC sold "Voice in the Wind" to United Artists, instead of distributing it some months ago along with the rest of the current season's output.

Replacing the old system of guarantees, which were based on 100 per cent of the negative cost of pictures produced, a system of quotas, based on 75 per cent of the cost, has been instituted. Moreover, the franchise holders have, for the first time, been given the right to audit the books of the parent organization to check against costs.

Additional Changes

In addition to these outstanding changes in the agreement, about 10 other changes on minor points are said to have been incorporated.

The deal was worked out by the franchise holders at a meeting here with Kenneth M. and John S. Young, principal owners of PRC, and their legal representatives, also with Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of PRC production, who was here for the company's recent sales convention. Attorney Bertram Mayers represented the holders.

All holders have signed the new franchises. They include, in addition to the committee: Bernard Mills and Jack Berkson, Buffalo; Harry I. Goldman, Boston; Jack K. Adams, Jr., Dallas; J. H. Ashby, Denver; Bill Flemion, Detroit; Joe Bohn, Indianapolis; R. H. Patt, Kansas City; B. F. Busby, Little Rock; Samuel E. Decker, Los Angeles; Joe Strother, Milwaukee; Abbott M. Swartz, Minneapolis; Phil A. Sliman, New Orleans; Sidney Kulick, New York; E. L. Walker and Harry McKenna, Oklahoma City; Harry Rogers, Omaha; Herbert Given, Philadelphia; Lew Lefton, Pittsburgh; Harry Gibbs, New Haven; Lloyd Lamb, Seattle and Portland; A. E. Edwards, Salt Lake City; Andy Dietz, St. Louis; Sam Sobel, San Francisco, and H. J. Allen, Toronto.

Safier Here for Campaign

Morris Safier of Almo Pictures and Western representative of AFE Corp., has arrived in New York from Hollywood to launch the sales campaign of "48 Hours," now playing the Little Carnegie Theatre here. Safier was formerly with Warners, United Artists and Fox West Coast.

Philadelphia Hit Hard by Heat, But 'My Way' Doubles

PHILADELPHIA, July 11. — In spite of intense heat that saw another seashore exodus from the city, Summer levels were maintained by central-city houses. Of the new openings, "Show Business" leads the way at the Fox with $22,500. However, the biggest business is being maintained at the Mastbaum, where "Going My Way?" figures on reaching $45,000 in its second week after a $55,000 starting week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13-15:

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)

ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, reissue. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $14,600).

"The Impostor" (Univ.)

ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,000).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)

BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000).

"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.) (6 days)
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.) (1 day)

EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Earl Hines' orchestra, Louise Beaver, Red & Curley, The Two Zephyrs, Betty Roche and Jesse Perry. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $27,600).

"Show Business" (RKO)

FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,500).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)

KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,600).

"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)

KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $5,800).

"Going My Way?" (Para.)

MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $22,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)

STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,300. (Average: $20,000).

"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)

STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,400).

Gov't Streamlines Machine Standards

WASHINGTON, July 11.—Joint specifications for film and projection equipment which will permit a manufacturer to switch without delay from production for one military service to another have been worked out by the War and Navy Departments as a result of experience with the delays and confusion occasioned by the different requirements of the military services before the war. These are two of the many items on which the services have streamlined their specifications in recognition of the fact that in modern warfare Army, Navy, Marines, the Air Force and Coast Guard operate as a unit.

The establishment of standard specifications will permit much war material becoming available for the particular branch of the service which needs it most urgently at the time regardless of which branch it was originally produced for and at the same time will reduce the cost to the Government and speed up the process of manufacture.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"LIFE" CONFIRMS TRADE REVIEWERS' VERDICT BY FEATURING "DOUBLE INDEMNITY" AS PICTURE OF THE WEEK...WITH THREE PAGES OF HIGHLIGHT SCENES IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE.... FAMED WEEKLY CALLS THIS BARBARA STANWYCK- FRED MAC MURRAY - EDWARD G. ROBINSON HIT "ONE OF THOSE RARE MOTION PICTURES.... COMPLETELY ABSORBING".... HAILS STANWYCK AS "A VOLUPTUOUS MURDERESS".... DECLARES MAC MURRAY "GIVES BEST PERFORMANCE YET."

U. A. Directors Approve 15 More Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

leasing program intended to cover the remainder of this season, all of 1944-45 and to run on into 1945-46.

The board ratified contracts for additional product to be supplied by Charles R. Rogers, Arnold Pressburger, Lester Cowan, Benedict Bogeaus, Seymour Benenzal, Angelus Productions and Constance Bennett, in addition to a series of color-cartoons, which again places U.A. in the short subject cartoon market.

A long-term deal for six pictures was made with Charles R. Rogers. These will be in addition to "High Among the Stars," starring Jane Powell, which he has under way.

Arnold Pressburger will deliver two pictures. The first of these is from the *Saturday Evening Post* story, "Set the Wild Echoes Flying," and will be directed by Zoltan Korda. The second Pressburger picture will be "Driftwood."

Vehicle for Garbo

The new contract with Lester Cowan, who is now making "G. I. Joe" and "Tomorrow the World," was extended to include a new picture starring Greta Garbo.

Three additional pictures will be made by Benedict Bogeaus, who is at present shooting "Dark Waters," starring Merle Oberon, Franchot Tone and Thomas Mitchell.

In a revision of an existing agreement, Seymour Nebenzal will produce "Mayerling" and two other pictures to be agreed upon.

Angelus Productions was granted a contract to deliver one picture not named.

"Paris Underground" will be made by Constance Bennett and directed by Gregory Ratoff.

The cartoon series will be the product of Plastic Products, Inc. A long-term deal has been agreed upon for the delivery of four Technicolor subjects a year. The new cartoon company is headed by John Sutherland, formerly with Walt Disney. The title of the first film is the "Cross Eyed Bull."

All members of the board attended the meeting, with the exception of George L. Bagnall.

700% Increase in Army Projectors

(Continued from page 1)

seen by American soldiers in civilian theatres not in Army theatres at the larger bases in Panama, Hawaii, Alaska, Newfoundland, Bermuda and Trinidad.

As indicative of the increase in shows and audience strength, it is reported that in the Mediterranean theatre alone 14,757 shows were given in March, 1944 for an audience total of 6,215,199, compared with 1,543 shows and an audience of 1,226,103 in the same month last year.

Instances of very old films being shown have been minimized, and so far as the 16mm issue is concerned, entirely eliminated, it was said.

13,949 5th Loan Events

(Continued from page 1)

Loan committee, R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman, reported here yesterday.

This total includes not only events registered with distribution chairmen in the field, and in instances where totals were not reported to the distributor chairman, the figures are incomplete.

With the bond selling effort by theatres continuing until the end of July, hundreds of additional events are already scheduled and the final total probably will average one per theatre, the national committee stated. This is an all-time record for any industry drive and reflects the greatest effort to date by the country's theatres.

Pledged and registered special events include 5,186 "War Bond Premieres," 1,068 "Children's Premieres" and 7,694 "Free Movie Days." The premieres reported were those for which pictures were booked and confirmed through the distributors' division.

Fifth vs. Fourth

These totals compare with the following Fourth War Loan special events: 3,182 "War Bond Premieres," 3,403 "Free Movie Days" and 10 registered "Children's Premieres."

The Fifth War Loan totals do not include numerous other special events, such as theatre stage presentations by service shows, bond auctions and the like, which were not reported.

O'Donnell also revealed that a total of 1,729 events in small towns, including 1,442 "War Bond Premieres" and 287 "Children's Premieres," used pictures not contracted for by exhibitors, under the agreement with the distributors which made this concession to theatres in towns of 7,500 population or less.

Premiere of Warner Short Sells over $500,000

NEWPORT, R. I., July 11.—In the first world premire on record where a short subject was the sole screen attraction, "Devil Boats," Warner Bros. two-reeler, resulted in war bond sales here totaling more than $500,000.

Ed Fay, theatre operator and War Activities Committee chairman for Rhode Island; Norman H. Moray, Warner Bros. short subject sales manager; George W. Horan, Art Moger, A. Pam Blumenthal and Andre DeLaVarre, were among industry persons present.

McCarthy, Grainger To Canada Meetings

TORONTO, July 11.—The annual sales convention of Empire-Universal Films will be held in the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, July 18-22, when two-day sessions will be conducted for Universal Pictures and Republic Pictures, with the fifth day's program to be devoted to British product.

Home office officials expected to attend include J. F. A. McCarthy, W. A. Scully and Maurice Bergman, all of Universal, and James R. Grainger, president of Republic.

AustraliaMay Add Film Tax

The Australian government is considering an ad valorem duty on films imported into Australia by American, British and other outside film interests, Herb McIntyre, Universal managing director for Australia and New Zealand, disclosed during an interview here yesterday. McIntyre is here for conferences with Universal executives, his first visit here in seven years.

"The American film companies probably can obviate this imposition of a duty based on the value of each film they send to Australia if they unite in the presentation of arguments to Australian authorities," McIntyre declared. He pointed out that the American film interests already pay a duty on footage and raw stock on films they exhibit in Australia.

About half of Australia's 7,000,000 attend films weekly with yearly attendance figures running between 165,000,000 and 170,000,000, McIntyre pointed out, in stressing the fact that films are practically the only form of popular entertainment in Australia today. "American film companies have supplied Australia's Armed Forces with 177,000,000 feet of film free of charge since the war began," he said. The raw stock situation which was described as being "tight" several months ago, has now eased in Australia.

Columbia is planning to make a film based on the life of Kingsford Smith, the aviator, in Australia but the only film production in the country at present is Charles Chauvel's "The Rats of Tobruk" which has been in production for almost a year and is expected to be ready for release next month, McIntyre explained.

McIntyre will soon observe his 25 years in business with Universal with a 25th anniversary sales campaign in Australia.

25 Writers Join in 'Psychological War'

HOLLYWOOD, July 11.—Twenty-five members of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization have agreed to allot from four to six weeks of their time this year to writing scripts of films which the Office of War Information will send into liberated countries. The plan was suggested by Philip Dunne, production director of the overseas division of the OWI motion picture section, who arrived here last week from the East.

Seminars on the subject will be held by a newly-created editorial board comprised of Charles Brackett, Harold Buchman, Marc Connolley, Howard Estabrook, John Houseman, Talbot Jennings, Harold Koch, Emmett Lavery, Meta Reis, John Howard Lawson, Allen Rivkin, Robert Rossen, Harry Tugend and Franklin Fearing, the latter a professor of psychology at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The pictures, according to Dnne, will be based partly on experience gained from OWI films already shown in Italy and elsewhere, partly on new ideas of the HWM group. Some will be made here and others in New York.

Sat. Eve. Post Tells Story of Gift Films

First national - magazine publisher to cooperate with the industry's War Activities Committee in publicizing the industry's 16-mm gift film program is Curtis Publishing Co. In addition to a feature in the Aug. 12 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, Curtis is printing and distributing a lobby poster to 16,000 theatres, accenting the fact that pictures shown in theatres are sent to war zones around the world. The poster will also call theatre patrons' attention to Pete Martin's *Post* story, telling of theatre participation in this project, and how films from the home-front reach the battlefront.

Loew, Union Chiefs At McLeod Rites

More than 250 Loew-M-G-M associates and friends yesterday attended services for J. S. McLeod, late M-G-M film and exchange maintenance head, who will killed in the Sante Fe train wreck last week. The services were held at Coughlin's Funeral Home, with burial at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Scarsdale.

A number of union leaders also attended, including: Richard F. Walsh, Louis Krouse and Joseph D. Basson; also the following union negotiators of film companies: A. A. Schubart, Clarence Hill, Frank Phelps, Mike Dolid, Pat Scollard, Tom Murray, Harry D. Buckley and Arthur Dickinson of the MPTOA and A. W. Schwalberg, formerly of Warners and now with International Pictures.

Among Loew-M-G-M executives attending were: David Bernstein, J. Robert Rubin, William F. Rodgers, Joseph R. Vogel, E. M. Saunders, J. E. Flynn, E. K. O'Shea, Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, H. M. Richey, C. K. Stern, M. N. Wolf, J. T. Mills, Leopold Friedman, Sam Gardner, Lou Amacher, John Bowen, Ralph Pielow, Ben Abner, Major Harry A. Miller, William Ferguson, William D. Kelly, Dave Blum, O. O. Decker, Sam Cohen, Irwin Margolies, Ben Melniker, Davy Levy, John Murphy, Irving Greenfield, A. Weltman, E. W. Aaron, Harold Postman, Lester B. Isaacs, Joel Bezahler, Charles Dossen and others.

Mason Candidate for Canada Parliament

TORONTO, July 11.—Mayor A. J. Mason, owner of the Capitol Theatre, Springhill, Nova Scotia, has been nominated Liberal Party candidate for Cumberland in the approaching elections to the Federal House of Commons.

Mason is president of the National Council of Independent Exhibitors of Canada and has been associated with Henry Falk of Toronto in campaigns within the Canadian film business and federal government circles in behalf of unaffiliated theatre owners. If elected, Mason would be spokesman for independents in the Canadian Parliament.

Raise Sound Service Rate

(Continued from page 1)

which raises the minimum pay for theatre sound engineers from $84 to $92 a week in addition to granting other concessions to over 400 of these workers employed by the two companies.

The War Labor Board has approved the new contract between Altec and the IATSE covering over 200 of the workers and approval of the RCA pact is expected any day. The WLB had previously approved the contract between the IATSE and Warner Bros. covering about 35 sound engineers employed by that company. Announcement of the increase in rates to theatres has been awaiting WLB approval of the new pacts.

In addition to the $92 a week minimum for the theatre sound engineers, the new pacts negotiated with the companies by Louis Krouse, IATSE general secretary-treasurer, provides for two weeks' vacation with pay after a year's service, senority rights and other benefits relating to hours. It also provides for the engineers to work on the installation of television in theatres.

Rule Later on U.S. Goldman Appeal

PHILADELPHIA, July 11.—The request of the anti-trust division of the U. S. Department of Justice to file a brief in the appeal of William Goldman, independent circuit owner, in his anti-trust suit for $1,350,000 against Warner Theatres and distributors has been taken under advisement by Federal judges John Biggs, Jr., and Gerald McLaughlin in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here.

The lower court dismissed Goldman's complaint that the distributors conspired to deprive him of his right to exhibit first-run pictures at the same time as Warner-controlled houses. Goldman sought the first runs for his downtown Erlanger, which remains dark.

Executive Board at Paramount Studio

(Continued from page 1)

growth of B. G. DeSylva's request that he be relieved of his duties as executive producer by Sept. 15 in order to launch his own production unit, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 2. Between now and September, DeSylva will continue to supervise all productions active at present.

Bertram Nayfack to Join Donahue & Coe

Bertram Nayfack, film attorney and secretary of United Artists Theatres, indicated yesterday that he may give up his law practice to take an executive post with Donahue and Coe, advertising agency handling many film and theatre accounts.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 8 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1944 TEN CENTS

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WPB to Hear Theatres' Need Of Equipment

Service Trades Bureau Sets July 20 Meeting

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Members of a newly appointed Theatre Industry Advisory Committee, representing all parts of the country, will meet with officials of the Service Trades Division of the Office of Civilian Requirements July 20 to organize and to discuss current and future problems affecting theatre operation.

The committee, appointed by Donald R. Longman, chief of the division, who will serve as Government presiding officer, will consist of Ed Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss; S. H. Fabian, New York; Robert W. Wilby, Atlanta; Hugh W. Bruen, Whittier, Cal.; Joseph Bernhard, New York; Claude C. Ezell, Dallas; Joseph Blumenfeld, San Francisco; Martin G. Smith, Toledo, Ohio; Lewis A. Lotito, New York, and William F. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va.

The theatre committee will be one of a large number which have been

(*Continued on page 6*)

Artkino Has 5 Ready For Next Season

Artkino, American distributor of Soviet films, already has a backlog of five features for release in 1944-45, Nicholas Napoli, president, disclosed here. Other product for showing in the new season will be determined shortly, Napoli said. The five are: "Kutuzov," a film about the general who defeated Napoleon; "Romance in Bokhara," a romantic drama; "Wait for Me," directed by Boris Ivanov, representative of the Soviet film industry in New York; "Two Soldiers," about the siege of Leningrad; "The Rainbow," from the Stalin prize novel by Wanda Wasilewska, and one fea-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Paramount's Election Scheduled for Today

The adjourned annual election meeting of the Paramount board of directors, postponed from last Thursday, is scheduled to be held here this afternoon. Barney Balaban, president, Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board, and all other officers are scheduled to be reelected.

Rank Plans Push to East

LONDON, July 12.—E. T. Carr, executive associate of J. Arthur Rank, will visit India and the Far East in the near future to investigate those territories in preparation for a postwar invasion by Rank's films, it has been learned here following the disclosure in MOTION PICTURE DAILY July 6 that John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres, would soon leave on a similar mission to Canada and the U. S. Official confirmation of both trips is expected in about a week.

Rank's assertion of authority over his band of producers, as well as his gradual but now rapid assumption of active control, is manifest in current discussions between him and officials of Two Cities Films. Associates of Filippo Del Guidice, Two Cities managing director, hitherto have eloquently maintained that company's complete

(*Continued on page 4*)

First Dubbed Films Off to War Zone

The first group of dubbed feature films which U. S. distributors are furnishing to the overseas film division of the Office of War Information for distribution in Europe's liberated areas by the Army Psychological Warfare Board, has been selected and the OWI is starting to ship prints abroad by the quickest means available, it was learned at the weekend.

The films, which are dubbed in

(*Continued on page 6*)

Decree, Postwar On Allied Agenda

Washington, July 12.—Decision whether to 'string along' with the anticipated new consent decree or to fight it will be made by national Allied's board of directors at their summer session in the Mt. Washington Hotel, Bretton Woods, N. H., Sept. 6-7. Also on the agenda is a report from Ray Branch, chairman of a postwar-problems committee.

"By September, the decree situation is expected to have crystallized to the point where the board will be able to make a decision," according to an Allied statement from headquarters here. Nathan Yamins and Arthur Howard are in charge of arrangements for the meeting.

PRC's Distribution Charges Are Cut

Reduction of distribution charges for all PRC exchanges, ranging between 12½ and 40 per cent, has been included in the new, amended agreement recently signed by the company and its franchise holders, Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, announced here yesterday, adding that this will make it possible for PRC to spend more on films and for expansion.

Fromkess characterized the agreement, reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, as "signifying the inauguration of great plans because of

(*Continued on page 4*)

Independents and Circuits Join in New Southern California Group

Los Angeles, July 12.—The formation of a Southern California Theatre Owners Association, with both circuits and independents included in the membership, was announced here today by attorney Albert J. Law, who said the organization would "deal with problems common to all exhibitors and provide a medium through which the views of all, large and small, can be properly expressed."

Law added that the new organization will not conflict with the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, several members of which have joined this association also. The new organization will open offices on Film Row and elect officers in about 10 days. Fox West Coast Theatres, Warner Bros. Theatres and several smaller circuits are listed as members, with Paramount and others expected to join soon. Local legislation, taxes and operational problems will be the chief concern of the SCTOA, Law said.

Law was counsel for the PCCITO here, joining that group after his resignation from the Department of Justice. He was originally sent here by the Department to prosecute the Government's case against Fox West Coast Theatres.

Next Tax Law May Reopen Ticket Levies

U. S. Experts Talking Postwar Policies

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Post war tax policies are now being studied by experts of the U. S. Treasury and the Joint Congressional Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, with a view to framing tax relief measures to be put into effect as soon as the military situation permits.

There will, however, be no tax legislation whatever considered by Congress during what remains of the current session, and the most that will be accomplished this year will be the development of policies to be followed when the end of the war permits the first reductions in rates.

The development of the post-war tax legislation is being handled on a strictly bi-partisan basis, the member-

(*Continued on page 6*)

No BMI-OWI Film Competition: Lober

There can be no competition between the British Ministry of Information's film division and the Office of War Information's film program in exhibiting films in the liberated areas because the two agencies operate jointly within the framework of the Allied Psychological Warfare Branch, Louis Lober, assistant to Robert Riskin, chief of the OWI's overseas film bureau, declared at the weekend.

In commenting on a suggestion contained in a MOTION PICTURE DAILY story with a London dateline that the BMI's film unit was ready to rush

(*Continued on page 6*)

Altec Rate Boost Already in Effect

Altec Service has already started signing contracts for theatre sound maintenance on the basis of an increas in rates of almost 10 per cent. T increase is occasioned by the new c tract which the company has s with the IATSE covering its

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, is expected back in New York from the Coast early next week.

•

HARRY ARTHUR, JR., general manager of Fanchon and Marco, has arrived here from St. Louis. He has deferred his trip to the West Coast for several weeks.

•

M. N. WOLF, M-G-M New England district manager, returned to Boston yesterday after two days in New York.

•

MARY ROLLINS, editorial director of Hillman's women's group of magazines, left yesterday for a week's vacation.

•

FRED WEHRENBERG, Midwest circuit head, is confined to his home in St. Louis County suffering from arthritis.

•

BARCLAY MCCARTY of the M-G-M publicity department is ill at the Fifth Avenue Hospital.

RKO Sets Trade Shows for Five

RKO will hold national trade screenings of the last five films on its 1943-44 program during July 25-27, coinciding with the company's annual sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

"The Falcon in Mexico" and "Music in Manhattan" will be screened on the 25th; "Mademoiselle Fifi" and "Bride by Mistake" on the 26th, and "Hevenly Days" on the 27th. The "Music in Manhattan" screening at Salt Lake City, however, will be held on the 27th.

Legion Approves Two Westerns, 'Jungle'

The Legion of Decency has announced the following classifications for films reviewed this week:

Class A-1, "Mystery Man," U. A, and "Outlaw Trail," Monogram, and Class B, "Jungle Woman," Universal.

Silvercruys at Bray

Suzanne Silvercruys, noted sculptress, has taken over the executive duties formerly handled by her husband, Major Edward F. Stevenson, at Bray Productions here. Major Stevenson is assigned to the Signal Corps at Astoria, L. I.

Bond Buying Continued

Film company home offices here have extended their drives to have employes buy extra war bonds through July, in line with the continuing bond-selling activities of theatres. All home offices will exceed their quotas, on the basis of present figures, it is understood.

Swiss Boycott Nazi Films Await U. S.

Switzerland will allow no more German films to enter the country "until such time as the safeguarding of our economic and cultural values has been assured by the restoration of transit facilities for Anglo-Saxon production," according to a Swiss Cinematographic Guild ruling, reported in press dispatches reaching New York from Berne yesterday.

Swiss newspapers editorially have welcomed the decision of the Guild, which controls all motion picture theatres, and exhibitors say that they have a sufficient stock of unreleased American films to carry on for some time on a rationed basis.

Lawson of Odeon in Canada Relief Post

TORONTO, July 12.—Appointed to an important post in the Canadian organization of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is Hon. J. Earl Lawson, PC, KC, of Toronto, vice-president of Odeon Theatres of Canada and of Empire-Universal-Films. Lawson, who is also a member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, has been named executive chairman of the Council of Canadian Voluntary Agencies.

The Council, which will work with UNRRA immediately and in the post-war period, comprises high officials of the Canadian Red Cross, Salvation Army, Canadian Jewish Congress and the Union of Catholic Social Agencies.

Koucie Wins Canada 6th War Loan Prize

TORONTO, July 12.—Winner of the first award in the national theatre managers exploitation contest for Canada's Sixth Victory Loan drive is Ted Koucie of the Alexander Theatre at Rouyn, a Northern mining town. Second prize went to Freeman Skinner of the Orpheus Theatre, Halifax, and third was W. K. Trudell, manager of the Capitol, London, Ontario. Each had previously won Provincial regional competitions and the national champion is an Odeon manager. A total of $1,200 was distributed among theatre managers.

Warners Set 2 on B'way

"Doughgirls," Warner picturization of the Broadway play, will open at the Hollywood Theatre, in New York, late next month, following "Mr. Skeffington." "Janie," first of the Warner 1944-45 season, will follow "The Adventures of Mark Twain" into Warner's Strand, New York. "Twain" opens at the Strand tomorrow.

20th Sets Two for August

"Take It or Leave It," starring Phil Baker and Marjorie Massow, and "Wing and a Prayer," with Don Ameche, Dana Andrews and William Eythe, will be released by 20th-Fox in August.

17 B'way Openings For 'Liberation'

"Liberation of Rome," War Department picture of the Italian invasion, being distributed by M-G-M for the War Activities Committee, will open today at the Music Hall, Rivoli, Paramount, Strand, Astor, Victoria, Capitol, Loew's State, Palace, Criterion, Trans-Lux Broadway, Trans-Lux 85th Street, Manhattan, Hollywood, New York and Gotham theatres. The Roxy opened the two-reel subject yesterday, and the Rialto will start tomorrow.

Fire Closes B&K's Apollo in the Loop

CHICAGO, July 12.—Fire in the Loop's B & K Apollo this morning caused damage estimate at $75,000. The flames were discovered after the last show when the house was empty, and were confined to the 18-foot area between the dome and the roof of the five-story building. Firemen were forced to cut holes through the ornamental ceiling and projection room. B and K officials indicate the house will be closed at least a month for repairs.

The Apollo will be razed after the war to make way for a bus terminal. The circuit has already purchased a neighboring Loop site to build a new theatre as soon as conditions permit.

PCC Elects Murfin; Arnold Reelected

HOLLYWOOD, July 12.—Jane Murfin has been elected president of the Permanent Charities Committee.

Edward Arnold was reelected vice-president and treasurer.

Named to the board were: W. Ray Johnston, Sam Jaffe, Sol. Lesser, Morgan Wallace, Carl Cooper, John Cromwell, Francis Farogh and Van Herron.

Checking Staff Changes

Two changes in the field supervisory staff of Warners' exchange picture film checking service were announced here by R. P. Hagen manager, on his return from Cincinnati and Cleveland. H. B. Sellers has been transferred from Cincinnati to Cleveland to supervise Cleveland and Detroit territories, replacing J. M. Houston. Morrell V. Martin succeeds Sellers in the Cincinnati and Indianapolis areas.

Columbia Changes

In reporting George Berman's promotion to the post of assistant to George Josephs at Columbia on Monday it was inadvertently stated that Josephs had been made manager of the sales accounting department in place of Daniel Weisman. Josephs has headed that department for some time, with Weisman as his assistant.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 12

HAL WALLIS announced "Love Letters," adopted from the forthcoming Chris Massie novel, will be his first production for Paramount.

•

Paramount acquired "Make Way for O'Sullivan," an original by Myles Connoly. William Sistrom produces.

•

Universal bought "It's Never Too Late," an original comedy. No assignments have yet been made.

•

Warner Bros. has budgeted $200,000 for the pre-release campaign for "Janie."

•

Columbia today gave Leigh Jason a new director's contract.

80 Pre-Releases For 'Skeffington'

Prior to general release on Aug. 12, "Mr. Skeffington" has been set by Warners for openings in 80 situations. While still running at the Hollywood Theatre on Broadway, the picture is scheduled to open the week of July 26 at three other metropolitan area first-runs, the Brooklyn Paramount, Stanley, Jersey City, and Branford, Newark.

The picture will open day-and-date at the Denver and Esquire in Denver on Aug. 1, and at the Warner and Merritt, Bridgeport, the following week, and subsequently in 73 other cities.

No Spanish Versions Before '45 for MGM

It is not likely that any of the films to be dubbed into Spanish by M-G-M under a newly announced program will be released before 1945, it was learned yesterday.

Morton Spring, acting manager of M-G-M's international department, explained yesterday that the processing plans, with exclusive use of new RCA equipment, have been completed but that releases cannot be planned for this year because of the painstaking effort being made to seurce perfection of these Spanish-language productions.

'Two Soldiers' Here

"Two Soldiers," produced from Eugene Gabrilovich's story written at the front lines of the Russian War, will have its American premiere at the Stanley Theatre here on July 19. Gabrilovich, correspondent for the *Red Star,* was formerly a scenarist at the Moscow Film studios. Artkino is releasing the film in this country.

Robot Kills Bergo

Lill-Alida Bergo, 30, former Swedish film star, was killed in Southern England recently by a robot bomb, it was disclosed here yesterday in press dispatches from London.

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WORKING GIRL



NAME — Bette Davis

OCCUPATION — Actress

EMPLOYER — Warner Bros.

NATURE OF DUTIES — Helping employer to maintain *"an enviable record for combining good picture-making with good citizenship."* *

REMARKS — We've been proud of Bette Davis, of her magnificent artistry and enormous talent, ever since she came to work with us. (And no matter how easy it looks on the screen, the word is "work"—with a very large "W"!)

But we've never been so proud of Bette as since completion of our new picture, MR. SKEFFINGTON

MR. SKEFFINGTON is the story of a very rich man and a very beautiful woman, and of their life together, A love story? We think that even after seeing it, you won't be sure!

But you *will* be sure that MR. SKEFFINGTON is a picture to rank among the finest ever made . . . and that Bette Davis has no peer among screen artists.

You'll be sure, too, that the company which produced MR. SKEFFINGTON intends to keep that "enviable record" enviable!

**The New York Times*

WARNER BROS.
are sending prints of this picture gratis to our boys overseas.
JACK L. WARNER
Executive Producer

BETTE DAVIS GREAT AS ONLY SHE CAN BE, IN "MR. SKEFFINGTON" with CLAUDE RAINS

RICHARD WARING • GEORGE COULOURIS • MARJORIE RIORDAN • Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN
Produced by JULIUS J. & PHILIP G. EPSTEIN • Screen Play by Julius J. & Philip G. Epstein From Story by "Elizabeth" • Music by Franz Waxman

Other Current Warner Bros. Productions:
THE ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN · BETWEEN TWO WORLDS · UNCERTAIN GLORY · SHINE ON HARVEST MOON · PASSAGE TO MARSEILLE · IN OUR TIME · DESTINATION TOKYO · WATCH ON THE RHINE

In this, the 12th of a series of national advertisements, Warner Bros. call attention to a fine actress, a fine motion picture, and a fine policy. Your comment on this series will be welcomed.

KEEP FIGHTING WITH WAR BONDS!

PRC's Distribution Charges Are Cut

(Continued from page 1)

the flexibility under which it is now possible for both the franchise holders and the company to operate."

Most important achievement of the agreement, Fromkess said, is the revision of the old type of guarantee of negative costs on individual pictures and adoption of a new formula under which each franchise holder is required to reach a fixed quota, which will permit accounting on an overall program basis.

The circumstances under which the holders will now be permitted to handle outside product would be PRC's failure to deliver a minimum number of pictures each year, Fromkess added, stating that, otherwise, PRC approval would have to be obtained.

The agreement was negotiated on behalf of PRC by Fromkess, Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager, and attorney Jerome Edwards. Nat Lefton, George Gill, Henri Ellman, Ike Katz and attorney Bertram Mayer represented the holders, each of whom was given a copy of the new franchise at the recent sales convention here.

Cincinnati Gives $14,500 to 'Mark'

CINCINNATI, July 12. — Weekend weather was very hot, but box office returns were not, with baseball and other outdoor attractions combining to depress the attendance curve. "The Eve of St. Mark," however, came within hailing distance of average, with $14,500 as the week's estimate at the RKO Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 12-15:

"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Men of the Sea" (PRC)
"The Laramie Trail" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,450. (Average: $1,600).

"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)
"Sonora Stagecoach" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show; 4th week for "Indiana," after one week at the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd weeek, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000).

Seek $3,150 Per Film

MEXICO CITY, July 12.—Film directors here, who recently became affiliated with the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, have begun a drive to gain a minimum salary of $3,150 per film.

Review

"Take It Or Leave It"

(20th Century-Fox)

Hollywood, July 12

IF this little experiment in production husbandry happens to net a fat profit on its lean investment—and it could—exhibitors can get set for a succession of parallel undertakings emanating from other sources. The picture is a collection of sequences from a dozen or more past TC-F pictures wrapped up in a screening of a Phil Baker (Eversharp) radio program hitched to a quick tale about a sailor whose wife's going to have a baby any minute, and does before the broadcast ends.

The thing's a novelty, with the sequences from old pictures occupying 80 per cent or more of the running time, and a Hollywood Boulevard preview audience, which hadn't paid an admission price to see it, got a lot of laughs out of it. The only names to bill it with are those of Phl Baker, who does on the screen what he does on the radio, but more so, and Phil Silvers, who's on for about a minute at the start of the film and never again. The other people in the cast are unknowns —Edward Ryan, Marjorie Massow, Stanley Prager and some others— but the old sequences screened, on a screen in the broadcasting studio as part of the Baker program, contain Betty Grable, Alice Faye, Al Jolson, George Montgomery, Jack Oakie and a flock of other stars whose names could be dangled from an exhibitor's marquee if he wasn't going to be around the theatre for a couple of weeks anyway.

Benjamin Stoloff directed the small portion of the picture which required some directing, and no less than three writers—Harold Buchman, Snag Werris and Mac Benoff—are credited with the script, about equal in dimensions to a short short.

Hitched to a top picture strong enough to satisfy the customers that they had their money's worth anyway (it followed "White Cliffs of Dover" at the preview), the film perhaps can be counted on to amuse a majority. It isn't equipped to stand alone.

Running time, 72 minutes. "G,"* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Indiana's' $30,000 Is 100% Over Par

DENVER, July 12. — The box office readings at the Denver Theatre showed that "Home in Indiana" was doing 100 per cent above average, or a $30,000 gross for the week. The Paramount was second with a gross of $18,600, while the Denham, showing "The Story of Dr. Wassell" for the second week registered a neat $12,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 10-13:

"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,400. Average: $5,600).

"See Here, Private Hargrove" (M-G-M)
"Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,435. (Average: $3,900).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
DENVER—(2,600) (45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $4,500).

"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $18,600. (Average: $9,300).

"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
RIALTO—(900) (45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Cross' Showing July 18

M-G-M's "The Seventh Cross" will be trade-shown at the New York exchange on Tuesday, July 18, rather than on Wednesday, July 19, as was previously announced by the home office.

All Toronto Under Average from Heat

TORONTO, July 12. — A heat wave resulted in slow business for Toronto first-runs, three of which were holdovers. "Pin Up Girl" looked like $9,800 for its second week at Shea's Theatre; second week of "Snow White" at the Imperial might be worth $9,300, and "Gaslight" was in its third week at Loew's with an expected $9,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

"Beautiful But Broke" (Col.)
"Cowboy Canteen" (Col.)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $12,800).

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,200).

"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $12,800).

Beautiful But Broke" (Col.)
"Cowboy Canteen" (Col.)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $4,400).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Calling Dr. Death" (Univ.)
UPTOWN — (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,800).

Censors Reject One

CHICAGO, July 12. — The censor board here rejected only one of 91 films viewed in June. The picture deleted from the list was the independently produced "Human Wreckage." Classified for adults were Monogram's "Call of the Jungle" and Universal's "Jungle Woman."

Rank Plans Push to East

(Continued from page 1)

independence from Rank, while admitting dependence on him for production, rental, finance and exhibition privileges in the Gaumont-British and Odeon circuits. Inevitable issue of the present discussions seems to be that Rank and his coadjutors, such as John Farrow and G. I. Woodham Smith, will join the Two Cities board of directors, with Rank as chairman.

Moreover, a British and Dominion Film Corp. shareholders' meeting has approved capital reorganization of that company, leading to Rank control, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY June 21. Two remaining steps are needed to complete this reorganization: a meeting of Rank's Pinewood Studios and sanction in the law courts, which seems assured.

Artkino Has 5 Ready For Next Season

(Continued from page 1)

ture tentatively titled "The Good Soldier Schweik vs. Hitler."

Last season, Napoli said, 11 Soviet films were released in this country, with 17 announced at the beginning of the season.

Business in such Latin-American countries as Cuba, Venezuela, Chile and Columbia this season has bettered last year's, and Canada, too, was a profitable market for Artkino, he said.

Soviet production, which had been largely confined to Alta Ata in Siberia, was shifting back to Moscow and Leningrad as the Eastern Front pushed Westward, Napoli revealed. Production was still maintained in that Siberian city, however. In Canada, Artkino recently concluded a deal with Monogram for distribution there.

Napoli revealed that Artkino, which has superimposed Spanish titles for films released in Latin-America, is considering dubbing some features in Spanish.

'Going My Way' Goes $3,500 Over Par

PROVIDENCE, July 12. — "Going My Way" did $14,000 at the Strand in its fourth week and was held over. "Marine Raiders" grossed $15,500 at the RKO-Albee and will be held over.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $12,800).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
STRAND — (2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,500).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,700).

The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC — (2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,100).

"Manpower" (WB)
"Attack" (OWI)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $6,500).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Casanova in Burlesque" (Rep.)
CARLTON — (1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, moved over after two weeks at the Majestic. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $4,000).



Proud of its place with 20th Century-Fox's outstanding features and fine short subjects, MARCH OF TIME congratulates its distributor for a sales record without parallel in the industry.

THE MARCH OF TIME
20th CENTURY FOX
PRODUCED BY THE EDITORS OF TIME AND LIFE

$65,700 for 'Sensations' On the Coast

LOS ANGELES, July 12.—"Sensations of 1945," coupled with "Attack," got $65,700 at FWC's Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State-Uptown first-run foursome, where $61,300 is average. "Days of Glory," linked with "Seven Days Ashore," did $33,000 in the Pantages-Hill Street tandem which averages $37,400. "White Cliffs" displayed notable staying power in its third week. Weather was fair to middlin'.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 12:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $11,200).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN (1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,500).

"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $8,650. (Average: $6,200).

"Days of Glory" (RKO)
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-7 days. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $24,100).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $14,900).

"Days of Glory" (RKO)
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,700).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $20,300).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $8,700).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,500).

"The Mask of Dimitrios (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,685. (Average: $17,000).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,688. (Average: $18,700).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,859. (Average: $15,200).

First Dubbed Films Off to War Zone

(Continued from page 1)

French and Italian, with German versions under consideration, are designed to provide Europe's liberated population with escapist fare and to give a picture of American life.

To date, the following dubbed pictures have been selected by the OWI: M-G-M's "Random Harvest" and "The Shop Around the Corner," both in French and Italian; 20th-Fox's "Claudia," in French; Warners' "Sergeant York," in Italian, and Columbia's "Men in Her Life," in French and Italian.

Next Federal Tax Law May Reopen Admission Levies

(Continued from page 1)

ship of the joint committee, for the first time, being equally divided between Democrats and Republicans—three members of each party from each House.

The first legislation to be enacted after the war is expected to provide for a reduction in corporation tax rates, framed with a view to providing an incentive, through preferential treatment, for new enterprises; a lowering of the individual income rates, and the easing of some of the so-called nuisance taxes, very possibly including theatre admissions if the measure is enacted before the end of the war emergency. The recent increase in the admission tax to one-cent-on-five carried with it a provision for a return to the former rate of one-cent-on-ten six months after the termination of hostilities.

A number of tax increases provided for in the last revenue bill carry a similar termination provision but, since no Congress can bind succeeding Congresses, they can be continued, if necessary, by act of the Congress which will take office next January.

Although there has been considerable pressure to have the post-war tax bill prepared immediately, so that it can be put into effect as soon as the military situation permits, no action will be taken to that end because of the impending end of the present Congress. Any bill "in the works" when this session adjourns would have to start over from scratch when the new Congress comes in.

With the Administration actually unable to show a numerical majority in the House now, it is fully expected that, regardless of the results of the Presidential race, the House next year will have a Republican majority. The change in House leadership is likely to have a definite influence upon the character of the tax legislation, another reason for not rushing the measure.

No BMI-OWI Film Competition: Lober

(Continued from page 1)

films into the liberated areas, "presumably in full competition with American films" of the OWI, Lober pointed out that the showing of films in these areas was a "military operation," determined by military expediency, and only the closest teamwork would prevail.

Not until these areas are out of the province of the military and restored to civilian rule, and private exhibition of films prevails, can the question of normal commercial competition arise, he said.

Altec Rate Boost Already in Effect

(Continued from page 1)

maintenance engineers which grants them wage increases and benefits.

RCA Sound Service is expected to effect similar increases in its rates to theatres as soon as its new pact with the IATSE is approved by the War Labor Board. The WLB has already approved the Altec contract with the IATSE.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, July 12

WARNERS will start the new season with the greatest number of musicals in its history. Two have already been completed, one is now shooting and nine more are in preparation. "Rhapsody in Blue," story of George Gershwin, is awaiting release, as is "Cinderella Jones." Currently shooting is "Hollywood Canteen," described as the studio's most ambitious musical. The cast includes such names as Bette Davis, Ida Lupino, Jack Benny, Barbara Stanwyck, John Garfield, Alexis Smith, Joan Leslie and Eddie Cantor. Musical personalities in the film include Jimmy Dorsey, Carmen Cavallero, Leopold Stokowski, Joseph Szigeti, and Dennis Morgan.

Other song-films in preparation are "Connecticut Yankee," "Here Come the Girls," "Melancholy Baby," "Mister Broadway," "A Night at Tony Pastor's," "Night and Day," story of Cole Porter and his music; "Sometimes I'm Happy," story of Vincent Youmans and his music; "Silver Lining," the life of Marilyn Miller, and "Mississippi Belle," for which Porter wrote the music.

•

PRC has signed Dave O'Brien to a long-term contract, calling for him to be continued as a Western star and also to be given an extensive buildup in dramatic roles. The present pact is with PRC itself, O'Brien's Western pictures being made on "loan-out" to Alexander-Stern, which previously held his contract. The star's first appearance under the new deal will be in "G. I. Guy," which Christy Cabanne will write and direct.

•

Lambert Hillyer has been signed to direct Universal's next Western, "Beyond the Pecos." George Waggner will direct as well as produce the same studio's "Frisco Kate," which will star Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Ella Raines, Louise Allbritton, Robert Paige and George Korvin. . . . Frank Craven has been signed for "They Shall Have Faith," Monogram's forthcoming infantile paralysis story. Gale Storm will be starred. . . . Warners has renewed Stephen Richard's contract. The actor made his screen debut in "Destination Tokyo."

•

George Brent, who was recently signed by RKO Radio to co-star with Hedy Lamarr and Paul Lukas in "Experiment Perilous," has made a new two-picture deal with that studio. . . . Bernard Barton has been assigned to act as associate producer on Universal's musical, "Swing Out, Sister."

•

Andrew Tombes and George Cleveland have been signed for featured roles in "Can't Help Singing," Deanna Durbin starrer currently in work at Universal. . . . Rhonda Fleming and Michael Chekov have been assigned important roles in David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes," which goes before the cameras in a few days with Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck co-starring. Alfred Hitchcock is the director. . . .

WPB to Hear Theatres' Need Of Equipment

(Continued from page 1)

set up by the WPB of which the OCR is a part, to give the various branches of all industries a voice in the discussion of policies and programs.

Heretofore, it was said, there has been little need for representation of the exhibitors, since the major program in which they were involved was that of the recreation and amusements section to encourage the construction of additional facilities in the war production centers, but with the anticipated expansion of civilian production and resumption of output of lines which have been halted since the outbreak of the war, to be accomplished under a system worked out in final detail yesterday, officials believe the theatre operators should be consulted regarding the matter of current and future urgency.

Discussion at next week's meeting will center around what it will take to keep the theatres operating and the role which their services play in the field for recreation. Specific subjects to be taken up will include facilities and equipment, manpower and operating supplies.

Seat Production Possible

Under the program finally worked out by the WPB with the high military command yesterday, material not required for war production will be made available for processing into civilian goods by manufacturers having manpower and equipment available for the purpose. For the exhibitors, this is seen as providing a possible resumption of seat production and, by the substitution of rayon and other materials for jute and other components not now available, the production of some carpeting.

The OCR Theatre Committee will serve to balance the industdy committees of the WPB production divisions, which advise on questions involved in the manufacture of raw stock, equipment, etc., and will serve to keep Longman's division closely acquainted with which is needed to keep houses running. The new committee is expected to meet periodically to furnish such information and, in turn, to receive from the OCR and WPB experts up-to-the-minute data regarding the situation with respect to various materials and products of importance in theatre operation. The advisory committee was originally set up more than a year ago but held only two meetings before becoming inactive until this time.

Jackson Park Case Off Until Fall

CHICAGO, July 12.—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals will not hear arguments in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case until late next fall. Because of the voluminous records to be printed and the large number of appeal cases scheduled before this trial, it will take three to four months to reach its hearing date.

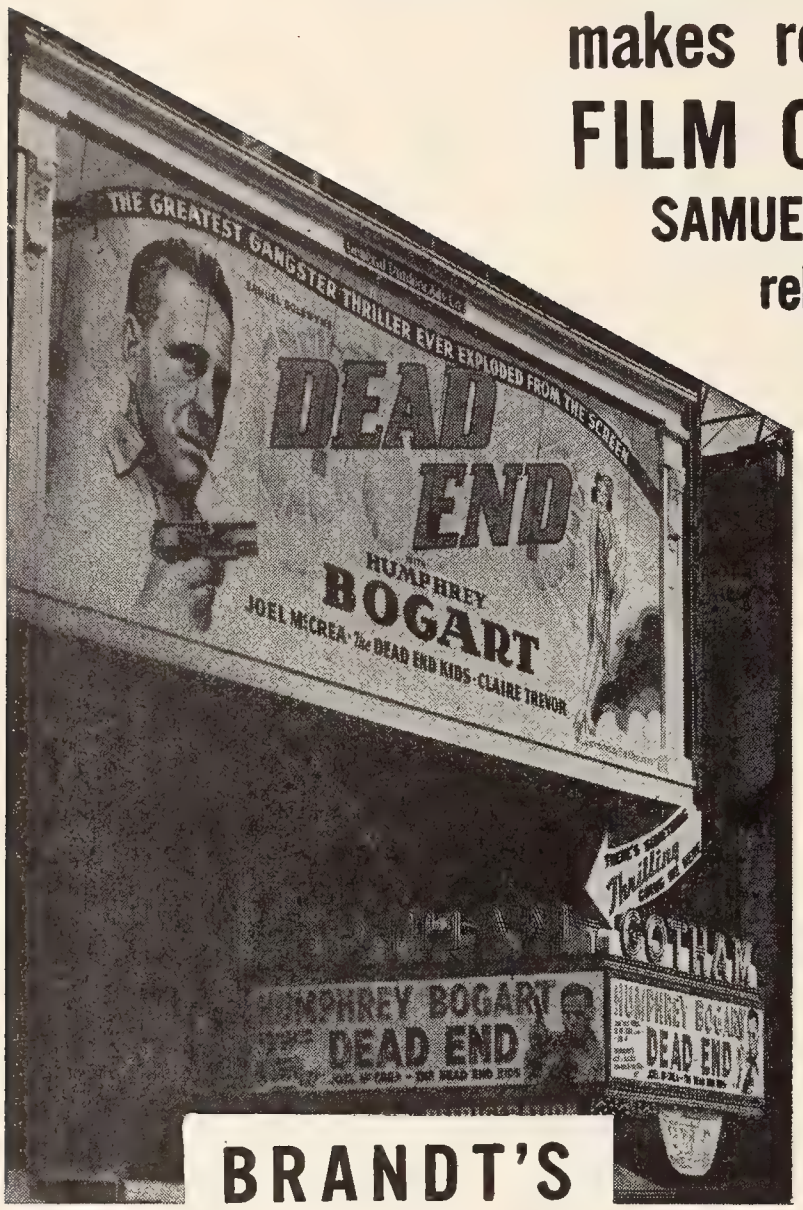
Defendants are: Balaban and Katz, Paramount, Warners, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's.

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
June 17	THE LAST HORSEMAN Russell Hayden Bob Wills "Dub" Taylor O—(5208)	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)		(Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)		GOOD NIGHT SWEETHEART Robert Livingston Ruth Terry D—67 mins. (302)	(Fifth Block) THE FALCON OUT WEST Tom Conway Barbara Hale D—64 mins. (421)		FORTY THIEVES Wm. Boyd Andy Clyde Jimmy Rogers O—60 mins.	GHOST CATCHERS Olsen and Johnson Gloria Jean C—68 mins. (8015)	
June 24	SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Jess Barker D—67 mins. (5040)	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425)	RETURN OF THE APE MAN Bela Lugosi John Carradine 60 mins. D—(319)	DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325)		YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—(343) 69 mins.	DAYS OF GLORY Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck D—86 mins. (422)		SENSATIONS OF 1945 Eleanor Powell Dennis O'Keefe M—85 mins.	SOUTH OF DIXIE Anne Gwynne David Bruce D—61 mins. (8043)	THIS IS THE ARMY (Re-issue) George Murphy Joan Leslie M—(224) 115 mins. (Color)
July 1		MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426)	RANGE LAW Johnny Mack Brown O—57 mins (355)	THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323)	MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—69 mins. (404)	MAN FROM FRISCO Michael O'Shea D—91 mins. (318)	THE YELLOW CANARY (British) Anna Neagle Richard Greene D—84 mins. (423)			CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Deanna Durbin Gene Kelly M—93 mins. (8002)	THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS Peter Lorre Sidney Greenstreet Zachary Scott D—95 mins. (318)
July 8	LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter C—(5019)	THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427)	JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE Simone Simon James Ellison D—79 mins. (304)	HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322)		CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS D—59 mins. (319)	SEVEN DAYS ASHORE Wally Brown Gordon Oliver C—74 mins. (424)	(July Releases—no definite date set)	SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell D—107 mins.	TRIGGER TRAIL O—(8086)	
July 15	SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5008)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot D—73 mins. (305)	GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—60 mins. (416)	MARSHALL OF RENO Wild Bill Elliott O—56 mins. (3312)		ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)		JUNGLE WOMAN Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins. (8018)	(Re-issues) MANPOWER 103 mins. (341)
July 22		(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (Color)	THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C—67 mins. (323)	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins.	SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH D—(417)	CALL OF THE ROCKIES Smiley Burnette Sonny Carson O—56 mins. (356)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)		TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin O—62 mins. (8045)	TIGER SHARK 79 mins. (345)
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D	CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins.		TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins.		COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN (reissue) Gene Autry O—(3305)	(Sixth Block) GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe	ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	THE WALKING DEAD 66 mins. (344)
Aug. 5			WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins.	DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane O—55 mins. (461)	MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427)				BROTHER RAT 89 mins. (343)
Aug. 12	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D		MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson O—59 mins. (366)	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins.		SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD Edgar Barrier Stephanie Bachelor C. Aubrey Smith D—68 mins. (321)	A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)				POLO JOE 65 mins. (346)
Aug. 19	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C		CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins.		SONG OF NEVADA Roy Rogers D—75 mins. (399)	STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429)			TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	(Regular Release) ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
Aug. 26	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O		LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins.		GIRL WHO DARED Lorna Gray D—56 mins. (322)	YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)				MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
						PORT OF 40 THIEVES Stephanie Bachelor Richard Powers D—58 mins. (324)	(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	(August Releases—No definite date set)			
							SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins.			

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.]

There's Always Room at the TOP

and even Broadway's product jam makes room for the FILM CLASSICS SAMUEL GOLDWYN releases!

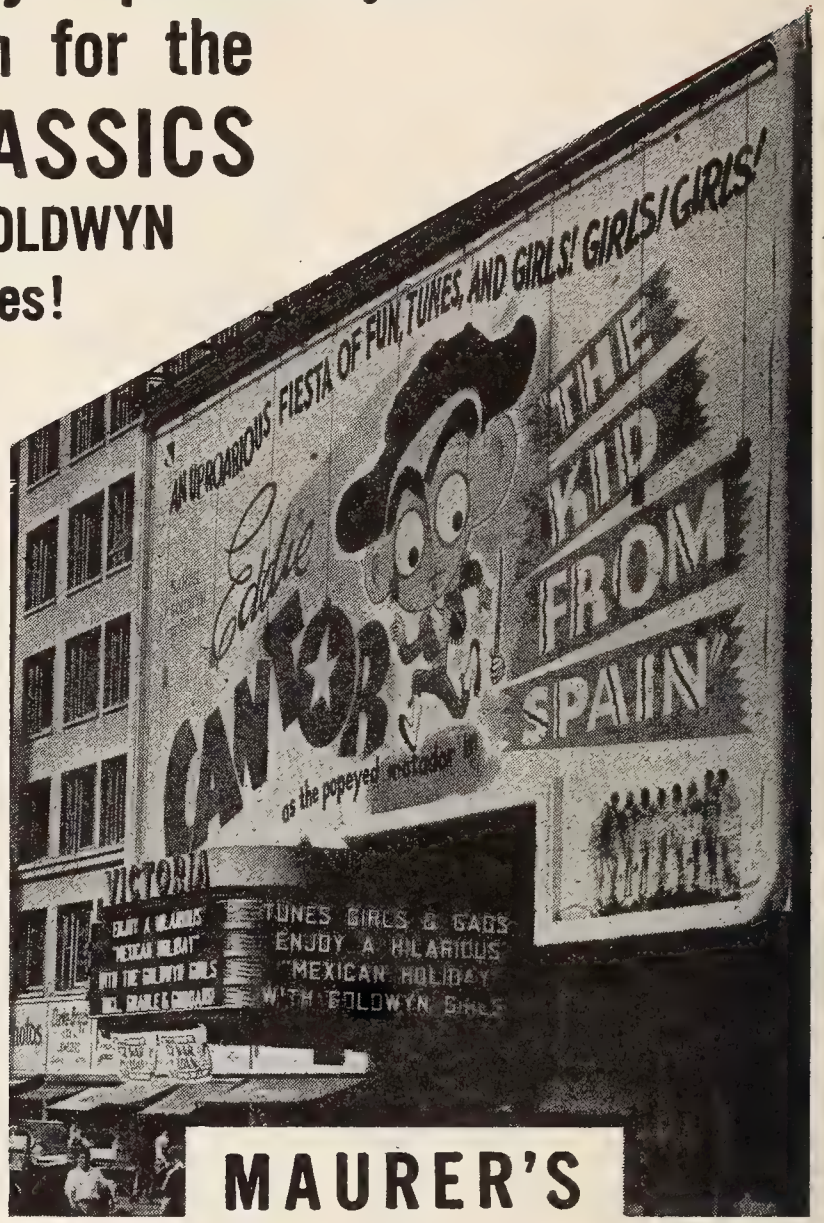


BRANDT'S

GOTHAM

47TH and BROADWAY

3RD BIG WEEK



MAURER'S

VICTORIA

46TH and BROADWAY

2ND BIG WEEK

FILM CLASSICS Inc.

NOW IN OUR NEW HOME OFFICE

18 WEST 48TH STREET

BRYANT 9-0660

EXCHANGES IN ALL KEY CITIES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 9 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Balaban, All Para. Officers Are Reelected

Adolph Zukor Reelected Chairman of Board

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of directors, and all other officers were reelected for the ensuing year at an adjourned meeting of the board held at the home office here yesterday.



Barney Balaban

Stanton Griffis was renamed chairman of the executive committee; Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Leonard H. Goldenson, Austin C. Keough, Charles M. Reagan and

(*Continued on page 3*)

U.S. Will Preserve World War Footage

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The United Nations Training Film Committee here in conjunction with the National Archives has taken steps to preserve the motion picture record of World War II, believed to be the most completely

(*Continued on page 3*)

Polio Closes N. C. Houses to Kiddies

Charlotte, July 13.—A city health department ban on the congregation of children under 15, occasioned by an infantile paralysis epidemic in Western North Carolina, has caused suspension of all kiddie matinees in local theatres as well as prohibited attendance at any regular show.

Theatres all report business as "considerably off" under the ban.

The epidemic is reported also in South Carolina, Kentucky and Georgia.

Croix de Guerre for George Spires

George H. Spires, former *Motion Picture Herald* reporter, has been decorated with the Croix de Guerre and promoted from first lieutenant to captain in the U. S. Army Tank Corps for valiancy in action on the Italian front.

Several weeks ago Spires led a small detachment that took an important road junction at Montefiascone and held it against the Nazis until Fifth Army reserves arrived. Awarding of the French emblem indicates that Spires was with a French unit in the engagement.

Seek WPB Approval For 70,000 Chairs

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Pressure of other matters today necessitated a postponement of a meeting between John Eberson, theatre architect and former consultant to the recreation and amusement section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, and Donald R. Longman, chief of the OCR service trades division, reportedly on the possibilities of securing War Production Board approval for the manufacture of 70,000 theatre chairs.

While this is only about 10 per cent of the number of seats estimated actually to be needed by theatres, it is all that could be produced under present

(*Continued on page 3*)

Monopoly Probers May End British Circuit Extension

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, July 13.—The entire Board of Trade films council will meet here tomorrow for consideration of its monopoly committee's report, which is understood to recommend legislation preventing further extension of circuits or studio acquisition by the so-called "monopolists."

Other expected recommendations will call for tribunals to insure independent exhibitors of fair treatment as against the circuits and for the establishment of a finance corporation to sponsor "worthwhile" approved independent productions.

The industry's representatives on the council doubtless have severe

(*Continued on page 3*)

CEA Standing Pat On Postwar Plans

LONDON, July 13.—The general council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association has rejected a resolution calling for revolutionary reorganization of its postwar planning committee and another providing that independent exhibitors only should represent CEA on its joint committee for conciliation with the Kinematograph Renters Society.

This action was taken at a meeting held today in Birmingham as a tribute

(*Continued on page 3*)

Communities Lose to 1st Run Theatres

Companies Study Trend Of Patrons' Switch

A growing tendency of patrons to desert neighborhood theatres, especially the smaller ones, and flock to downtown first runs has set exhibitors and distributors to work on a study of the cause, effect and possible cure of the trend, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today in reporting the views held on the subject by a number of company executives, plus a survey of the situation in various key cities.

Factors cited as contributing to the shift are: increased income of the public during the past three years; longer holdovers at first-run situations, with the result that patrons refuse to wait for new films to reach their neighborhoods; decrease in product since Pearl

(*Continued on page 3*)

Johnston Says No Film Post for Him

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Present plans of Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, do not include acceptance of any offers reportedly made to him by film interests, he disclosed today. His name had been linked to a MPPDA post.

Refusing to admit specifically that such offers had been made, Johnston

(*Continued on page 3*)

O'Donnell and Depinet Set July 27 for Bond Reports

Appealing to all exhibitors to mail in their Fifth War Loan campaign reports to the industry's "Fighting Fifth" committee in New York on the night of July 27, R. J. O'Donnell, national drive chairman, and Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman, yesterday jointly declared:

"All through the fifth campaign the industry's committee emphasized that only one report will be requested, and we intend to stick to that promise. With exhibitors continuing their bond-selling efforts through July, at the request of the U. S. Treasury, we are closing on July 27.

"Postcard report forms are now at the printers and will be mailed from New York to every exhibitor in the country. The national committee has devised the report in the simplest possible form. Unless these reports are mailed to the national committee, the showing made by exhibitors and the industry will be lost," the O'Donnell-Depinet statement added.

"In the past it has been extremely difficult to obtain proper reports from theatres," the statement added. "This time we have made it easy. The information asked for consists of: name of theatre, address, name of exchange area, exhibitor's name, total number of bonds sold from June 1 through July 27, total maturity value, total number and maturity value of bonds sold for 'War Bond Premieres', 'Children's Premieres' and 'Free Movie Day', whether 'Free Movie

(*Continued on page 3*)

Morgenthau Cites Hollywood Stars

Hollywood, July 13.—Hollywood's trouping-star bond sellers who aided the Fifth War Loan drive are credited by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., with creating "a national atmosphere" vital to the campaign, in a telegram received by the Hollywood Victory Committee here last night.

He also acknowledged the cooperation of the HVC, through which Hollywood players make all free appearances for the war effort.

Personal Mention

AUSTIN C. KEOUGH, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, will leave New York tonight for a month's vacation.

•

LT. COMMANDER ROBERT MONTGOMERY, who has seen action in the European and Pacific war theatres, arrived at La Guardia Field yesterday en route to Los Angeles.

•

GEORGE JESSEL, 20th-Fox producers, will arrive in New York this morning from California to make a series of personal appearances and radio broadcasts.

•

HARRY ROSENBLATT, M-G-M's sales manager for the Boston territory, and MRS. ROSENBLATT are in Baltimore visiting their son, GEORGE, stationed at Edgewood Arsenal.

•

FRANK P. GIBBS, general manager of General Screen Advertising, will return to Chicago Monday following a week here.

•

MAURICE SILVERSTONE and FRANCIS HARLEY are scheduled to arrive from the Coast tomorrow following conferences at the 20th Century-Fox studios.

•

HARRY ARTHUR, Jr., general manager of Fanchon and Marco, left yesterday for St. Louis after several days here.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity director, will leave for Boston next Wednesday.

•

JAMES MULVEY is expected back from the Coast early next week.

•

H. J. YATES is enroute to the Coast.

MGM Plans Tie-Ups For 'Canterbury'

Plans for national promotional tie-ups for Margaret O'Brien, M-G-M's child star currently appearing in "The Canterbury Ghost," were outlined yesterday to merchandising heads by Edward Carrier, head of the company's royalty department, under the direction of Howard Dietz, vice-president and publicity, advertising and exploitation manager, and William R. Ferguson, head of exploitation. The meeting was held at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor.

Fire Wrecks Theatre, Levels Community

MONTREAL, July 13.—The Pascalis Theatre, in Pascalis, a nearby mining town, was destroyed in the series of forest fires which leveled the entire community. Only a few pieces of equipment were salvaged.

The fires which have swept the entire "gold belt" area of North Quebec for the last two weeks are reported to be under control.

Loop Down to Three Split-Policy Runs

CHICAGO, July 13.—The Loop next season will have only three houses with stage and screen policies for the first time in nearly four years when the State Lake changes to straight films. N. S. Barger, burlesque wheel operator at the Rialto, will try vaudeville and band shows at that house beginning Sept. 1 when it will be renamed the Paramount. Charles Hogan, who is booking the independent Oriental, will also book the Rialto. It is understood, however, that the Oriental will get first call on available stage attractions.

Burlesque shows, in the meantime, will play at the Van Nomikas Empress Theater. The third combination policy house in the Loop is the B. and K. Chicago, which will concentrate primarily on house-concocted presentation shows, augmenting its first run Paramount and 20th-Fox product.

11 M-G-M Managers To Visit Home Office

Continuing the plan to have two field managers visit the home office for a week, M-G-M exchange managers Maurice Saffle, Seattle, and L. C. Wingham, San Francisco, are due here Monday from their respective territories.

Sam Gardner, Salt Lake City branch manager, will leave New York today after having spent the week here; Lou Amacher, Portland head, will depart tomorrow, and J. E. Flynn, Western sales manager, will leave Sunday for Chicago, where he headquarters. On July 24, Leroy Bickel, Dallas manager, and Jack ReVille, Oklahoma City, are due here, and they will be followed by W. E. (Doc) Banford, Chicago, and Bob Workman, Minneapolis, on July 31. On August 7, Ralph Maw, Buffalo, and Herman Ripps, Albany, will begin a week's visit at the home office.

Columbia Premieres 'Winkle' at Army Post

ABERDEEN, MD., July 13.—Columbia's "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" had its world premiere here last night at the Proving Grounds before an audience of Army officers and enlisted men as well as critics from Baltimore and Washington newspapers.

Featured was the 165-station Blue Network broadcast of the Dunninger program which, tied in with the preview, originated here at the Army post last night.

R. H. Ray Heads GSA

CHICAGO, July 13.—R. H. Ray of Ray Bell Films, St. Paul, has succeeded William Johnson as president of General Screen Advertising which will open offices in New York in the near future. Johnson has returned to his Motion Picture Advertising Service at New Orleans.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 13

STEVE BROIDY, vice-president and general sales manager for Monogram, will leave Hollywood tonight with his family fora two-week vacation in Yosemite Valley.

•

National Theatres division heads, Elmer Rhoden, Rick Ricketson, Harold J. Fitzgerald, B. F. Sturdivant and George Bowser conferred today with Charles P. Skouras on circuit policies and with Spyros Skouras on exhibition plans for "Wilson".

•

Gary Cooper's first independent production in which he will star as well as produce for Internation Pictures will be "American Cowboy" by Alan Lemay. Nunnally Johnson will write the screenplay.

•

W. R. Frank, Minnesota circuit owner and Hollywood producer, arrives tomorrow to prepare for his next production.

•

William P. Philips, 20th-Fox board member, left for New York by plane following conferences with Joseph M. Schenck.

•

Twin daughters were born to the White Whitney Boltons last night. Mrs. Bolton was the former Nancy Coleman.

•

Republic Pictures extended John English directorial contract for one year.

•

M-G-M extended Ann Sothern's contract for a long term.

•

Andrew Stone appointed Len Boyd advertising and publicity director.

$206,000 in Bonds For Mono. in LA.

HOLLYWOOD, July 13.—Monogram's bond purchases in this area in the Fifth War Loan drive totaled $206,000, it was revealed yesterday by W. Ray Johnston, president. The amount includes the corporation's investment and studio and staff personnel purchases, representing nearly 100 per cent of all employes.

Exchanges Get Overtime

PHILADELPHIA, July 13.—Forty employees of the local M-G-M exchange have been paid $428 as overtime pay due them under the Fair Labor Standards Act, it was announced here by Frank J. G. Dorsey, regional director of the wages and hours division. The amount paid is part of voluntary restitution totalling $10,825 being paid by Loews, to 648 employees in 31 film exchanges throughout the country. Workers affected are checkers.

Jane Porter to Hillman

Jane Porter has joined the staff of *Movieland*, Hillman publication, as assistant to Doris Cline, editor.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
HELD OVER THIRD WEEK!
CARY GRANT in "Once Upon a Time"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
HELD OVER 3rd WEEK!
See Stilwell in the War's Most Incredible Venture
BACK DOOR TO TOKYO
THE LATEST MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'The WHITE CLIFFS of DOVER'
IRENE DUNNE
ALAN MARSHAL
VAN JOHNSON
& SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS
IN PERSON
Dave APOLLON
Romo VINCENT
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION
Lois ANDREWS

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

Phil Baker - Phil Silvers - Guest Stars
'TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT'
A 20th CENTURY-FOX HIT!
PLUS ON STAGE—
DUKE ELLINGTON & ORCH.
ELLA LOGAN - JERRY LESTER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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CEA Standing Pat On Postwar Plans

(Continued from page 1)

to Sidney W. Clift, CEA president, after John Davis of Odeon and Arthur Jarratt of Associated British Cinemas had made a strong fight for the independents.

Another resolution, alleging grievances against independents demanding a new barring system in booking arrangements, was deferred for consideration by the appropriate committees and for discussion with KRS.

Following the luncheon, it was disclosed that the Cinema War Prisoners Fund now stands at $2,400,000 and will reach the $4,000,000 mark in the course of the coming year.

Regarding charges on unfair trading on the part of KRS, the conciliation committee reported that the claims of only 71 theatres remain to be dealt with and that a certain number of these had still not presented sound evidence. It was the consensus of opinion that if they do not do so they should be left to their own devices without benefit of CEA protection, the inference being that KRS allegations of sharp trading practices are justified.

U. S. Will Preserve World War Footage

(Continued from page 1)

documented event in history.

Capt. John G. Bradley, head of the film division of the Archives, and chairman of the film preservation committee of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, states that war pictures, compiled by the armies of the U. S., Great Britain, Russia and China, will be preserved for posterity with a negative, a master positive and a reference projection print. The plan for preserving the motion picture record was suggested to insure against deterioration of prints that destroyed five-sixths of World War I footage.

Probers Would Stop Circuit Extension

(Continued from page 1)

criticisms prepared, and a hectic debate is promised.

Tenure of the present council will expire Aug. 20, and it is believed that recommendations to the Board of Trade will be deferred until a new council is formed.

Universal to Dub Its Product in Spanish

LOS ANGELES, July 13.—Universal Pictures today announced its decision to dub an unspecified number of pictures in the Spanish language. The studio previously had dubbed pictures only for the French market.

RKO Books 'Casanova'

"Casanova Brown," first of four International Productions to be distributed by RKO in the new season, has been booked into the entire RKO circuit. An out-of-town premiere will be held during the Labor Day holiday with Metropolitan New York dates hinging upon the length of the film's run at the Music Hall here where it has been booked to follow M-G-M's "Dragon Seed."

Communities Losing Out To First Run Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

Harbor and accompanying improvement of product, influx to key cities of service men and their families and friends, and war workers' desires for "first run" entertainment.

Leonard Goldenson, in charge of theatre operations for Paramount, finds that, while first-run business has increased to a greater extent than that of the neighborhoods, the latter also have their fair share, with the smaller houses at the end of the run bearing the brunt of the patronage drift. James M. Brennan, head of RKO's Metropolitan and New Jersey circuit operations, views the market today as "a false market" and holds, therefore, that it is difficult to determine how great the patronage drift has been. Dan Michalove, National Theatres executive, believes many subsequent runs in the country are suffering despite increased admission prices. "There has been a more substantial increase in the first runs than in the neighborhoods," he said.

At least one distributor, M-G-M, is now at work on a plan, blueprinted by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, to equalize the application of the company's sliding scale for individual situations, so that the subsequent-run exhibitor may find relief. Rodgers contends, however, that "only a small part of the patronage of the first-runs is coming from neighborhood theatres."

In Washington the average loss of neighborhood business to houses downtown is 22 to 23 per cent of the weekly gross.

A drop of 25 to 35 per cent in comparison with 1941 and 1942 is noted at Chicago subsequent-run theatres. A spokesman for the H. and E. Balaban Corp. finds that "a five to 15-cent difference in admission prices no longer acts as a business attraction" at neighborhood houses.

In New York City, a typical neighborhood exhibitor opinion was expressed by Harry A. Harris of Harris Theatrical Enterprises, operators of the Delmar and Dorsey in upper Manhattan, who said: "Our people never went to Broadway until recently; now we find them going downtown in large numbers. Saturday and Sunday night business has had a noticeable drop," and David Weinstock, president of Raybond Theatres, operating in New Jersey, Connecticut, New York and Long Island, added: "We have lost a lot of customers to first runs. Our business is below that of two or three years ago. In some spots we were obliged to raise prices to meet the situation."

Business in the Cincinnati neighborhoods has held its own, with periodic fluctuations both upward and downward, but exhibitors there agree that the percentage of any increase in their business is definitely below that of the first runs. Similar reports come from many other places. In Boston, theatre men claim there has been no decrease in neighborhood patronage, although business in the big downtown theatres has increased tremendously.

The general shift from the neighborhoods does not seem to have affected St. Louis, where there are some indications of a trend in the opposite direction. First-run receipts have slumped in the past eight weeks, despite increased prices.

July 27 Set for 5th Bond Reports

(Continued from page 1)

Day' was held on July 6 or some other day, and if the theatre had more than one 'Free Movie Day', the total for all, and, finally, whether the theatre is a bond issuing agency or sub-issuing agency," the O'Donnell-Depinet statement added.

"It depends greatly on the exhibitor chairmen, the distributor chairmen, branch managers and salesmen in the field to spread the story of this report so that every exhibitor will regard it as a solemn obligation to get it in."

Loew Theatres Sold $12,451,000 Bonds

Loew's theatres sold $12,451,000 in 5th War Loan bonds between June 1 and July 9. Of this amount, $8,329,030 were sold in Greater New York and $4,121,970 out of town.

N. Y. Theatres Have Sold Almost $30,000,000

Between June 1 and July 9, $29,152,568 in 5th War Loan bonds were sold to theatregoers in the New York exchange area, according to Charles C. Moskowiz, general chairman of the Metropolitan theatres' drive. In "The Battle of the Boroughs," Queens continues to lead with bonds sold for 45 per cent of that borough's seating capacity. The Bronx is in second place with 40.3 per cent. Manhattan theatres trail with 30.8 per cent. 258,592 E-bond units have been sold in the entire area.

B. & K. Bond Premieres Gross $14,000,000

CHICAGO, July 13.—John Balaban, head of the B. and K. here, disclosed yesterday that the 11 bond premieres staged in local B. and K. theatres grossed $14,000,000 for the Fifth War Loan. Participating houses included the State Lake, Uptown, Southtown, Marboro, Harding, Varsity, Century, Central Park, La Grange, Portage Park and Terminal.

Doyle Rejoins M-G-M

Ross Doyle, who left the M-G-M publicity department two months ago to join the Office of War Information, will resume his publicity activities for M-G-M Monday.

Davis Succeeds Rosen

PHILADELPHIA, July 13.—Al Davis has been named manager of the Monogram exchange here. He succeeds Sam Rosen, who died recently.

Seek WPB Approval For 70,000 Chairs

(Continued from page 1)

labor and materials limitations.

Eberson, who has continued to aid the OCR as occasion arose since he resigned some weeks ago, is understood to have made a study of the situation. If the WPB approves the production of the chairs, it is expected a considerable proportion will be required for new houses which have been built or are now building for war-defense areas. The remainder might possibly be held as a reserve to be doled out to exhibitors who may put up new war area houses in the future or suffer from fire losses.

Johnston Says No Film Post for Him

(Continued from page 1)

said he had "received lots of offers," but that his plans contemplated only serving out his term as president of the Chamber of Commerce, which expires next May, and during that time to devote himself to the furtherance of American industry and trade.

Just returned from Russia, Johnston told a press conference here today that the Soviet Union will be a major field for American machinery and equipment after the war and for many years to come and expressed confidence that the government would pay for what is required and live up to any commitments it made respecting credits.

He did not discuss motion pictures specifically, but did say that one of the important aims of the Russian government is to lift the level of living to that in this country, with all of the necessities and comforts that the term implies.

Balaban, Other Para. Officers Reelected

(Continued from page 1)

John W. Hicks, vice-presidents; Walter B. Cokell, treasurer; Fred Mohrhardt, comptroller; Keough, secretary, and Norman Collyer, Jacob H. Karp and Frank Meyer, assistant secretaries.

Members of the board, elected by the Paramount stockholders at their annual meeting June 20, follow: Balaban, Freeman, Goldenson, Griffis, Keough, Hicks, Zukor, Stephen Callaghan, Harvey D. Gibson, A. Conger Goodyear, Duncan G. Harris, Earl L. McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards and Edwin L. Weisl.

Seldes at Seminar

Gilbert Seldes, CBS director of television programs, and Thomas H. Hutchinson, production manager of RKO Television Corp., were the speakers at the television seminar meeting of the Radio Executives Club here last night.

Betty Compton Dies

Mrs. Betty Compton Knappen, 37, former musical comedy and screen actress and former wife of James J. Walker, died Wednesday at Doctor's Hospital here after a long illness. Surviving are her husband, son and two adopted children.

RED RYDER COMES

PRESOLD TO MILLIONS *through:*

Red Ryder Cartoon Strip in over 700 newspapers with a combined circulation of 15,000,000!

The power-packed series of Red Ryder books . . . 5,000,000 currently in circulation!

Red Ryder comic magazines with a fan following of 3,000,000!

This tremendous audience is waiting to see Red Ryder on the screen!

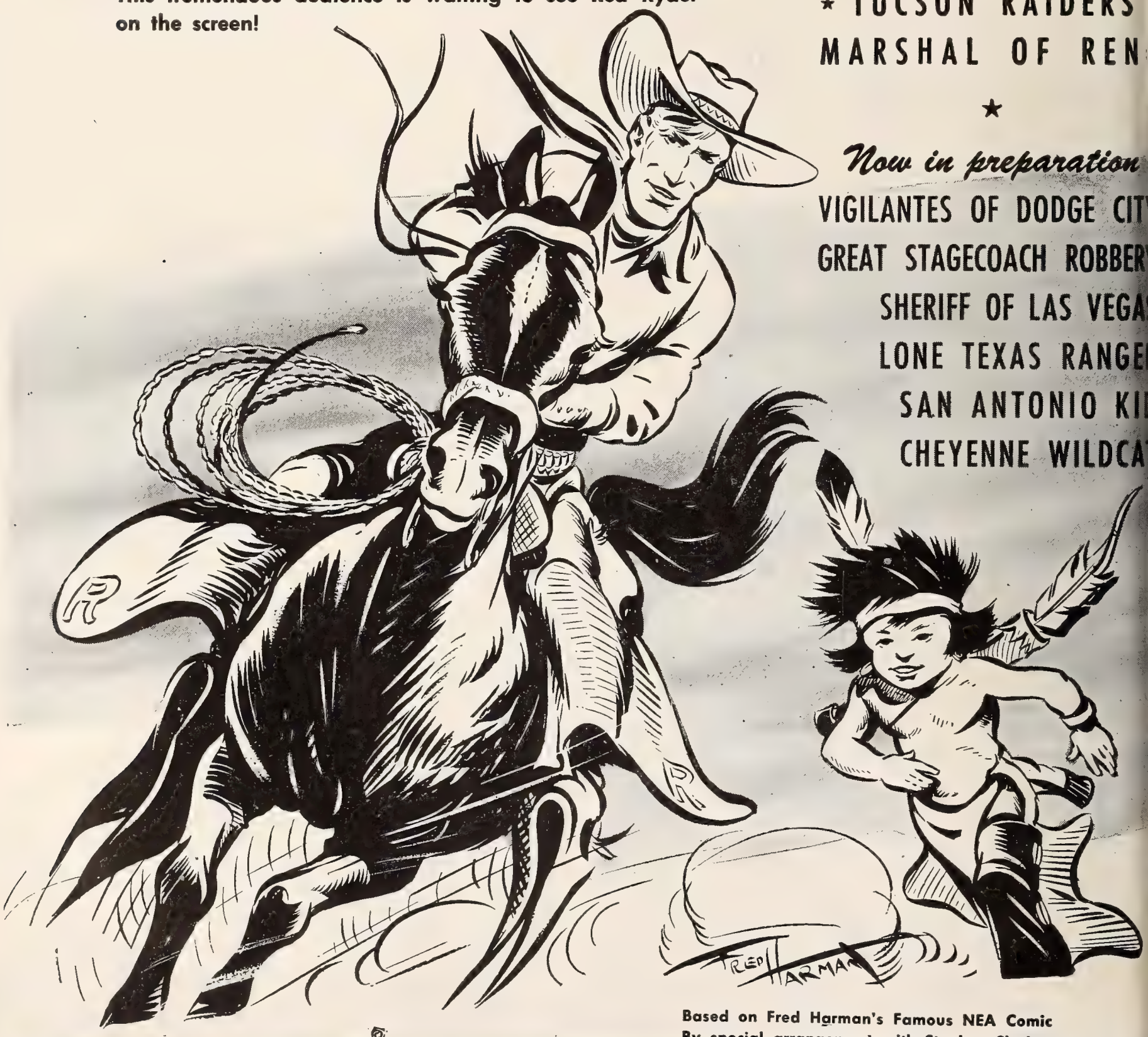
Now in release

★ TUCSON RAIDERS
MARSHAL OF REN

★

Now in preparation

VIGILANTES OF DODGE CIT
GREAT STAGECOACH ROBBER
SHERIFF OF LAS VEGA
LONE TEXAS RANGE
SAN ANTONIO KI
CHEYENNE WILDCA



Based on Fred Harman's Famous NEA Comic
By special arrangement with Stephen Slesinger

TO THE SCREEN....

THE MOST POPULAR CARTOON CHARACTER OF TODAY IN 8 REPUBLIC OUTDOOR DRAMAS



WILD BILL ELLIOTT as **RED RYDER**
BOBBY BLAKE as **LITTLE BEAVER**
ALICE FLEMING as **THE DUCHESS**

ANOTHER SCOOP FOR
REPUBLIC
SHOWMANSHIP

WAR COSTS!

225,382 CASUALTIES!

•

200 BILLION DOLLARS!

•

95 BILLION MORE THIS YEAR!

KEEP ON

SELLING BONDS!

Fight by the side of our troops who never stop! All War Bond sales in July will be credited to Fighting 5th War Loan Drive!

Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.

Fifth Week of 'Going My Way' Draws $60,000

CHICAGO, July 13.—The fifth week of "Going My Way" at the Chicago drew a heavy $60,000, assuring the picture a record sixth week plus a tentative booking of an additional two weeks. "Roger Touhy, Gangster" which grossed a very big $5,000 in its opening day, registered a highly favorable $16,300 in its first week at the Garrick.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 13:

"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
APOLLO — (1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 4 days, 2nd week. House closed by fire. Gross: $8,000. (Average 7 days: $11,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 5th week. Stage: Ozzie Nelson and orchestra, with Harriet Hilliard. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK — (1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $9,100).
"Dead End" (UA reissue)
"Dixie Jamboree" (PRC)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,100).
"Jam Session" (Col.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Duncan Sisters and acts. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.) 6 days
"Marine Raiders" (RKO) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STATE LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $29,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,200).
"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 11th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $10,000).

Name First National

HARTFORD, July 13.—First National Pictures of Maryland (Warners) has been notified by Judge J. Joseph Smith of U. S. Circuit Court here that it has been named a party defendant in the damage suit filed by Helen Grace Carlise of Stamford in connection with the Warner film, "Princess O'Rourke." Miss Carlise charges that the film's story was based upon her novelette, "Rich in Heart." She seeks $300,000.

RKO Gets 'Goyescas'

The Spanish film, "Goyescas," starring Imperio Argentina, will be released in the U. S. and Canada by RKO, with distribution directed toward Spanish-language houses. Test runs have already been held in New York and San Francisco.

WB Theatre Meeting

MILWAUKEE, July 13.—Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager of Warner Theatres, and W. Stewart McDonald, comptroller for the circuit, are here from New York to hold a meeting of the Wisconsin zone theatre executives.

MGM Defers 'Harem'

"Lost in a Harem," the second Abbott and Costello picture for M-G-M, which the company is expected to release in August, will not be released until November.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



BROADWAY'S FIRST THEATRE DOOR-GIRL IS BUSIEST GIRL IN TOWN AT RIVOLI, WHERE **"THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL"** IN 6TH WEEK IS CONTINUING TO PLAY TO MORE PEOPLE THAN ROAD-SHOW AND ADVANCED-PRICE GRIND RUNS OF "BELL TOLLS".... AND FIRST REPORTS FROM NATIONWIDE RELEASE DATES SHOW COOPER-DE MILLE HIT AVERAGING 25% AHEAD OF "LADY IN THE DARK" AND "STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM" IN ATLANTA, KANSAS CITY, TOLEDO, SALT LAKE CITY, BIRMINGHAM, ST. PAUL, DULUTH AND SIOUX FALLS.

Three-Dimensional 'Jerkless' Cartoons, Sutherland Claims

Three-dimensional cartoons of more convincing animation than heretofore are promised by John Sutherland, president of the new Morey and Sutherland Cartoons. Through the use of plastic figures, he explained yesterday, cartoons can be given changes of facial expression without the "jerks and distortions" to which wooden and rubber figures are subject.

Sutherland, who will leave for his West Coast studios today after 10 days in New York, during which he consummated a three-year deal for United Artists distribution of a cartoon series, stated in an interview here that from five to seven would be released the first year, 1944-45, with the schedule thereafter increased if possible. All will be in color.

Associated with Sutherland as vice-president of the company, first formed as Plastic Products, Inc., is Larry Morey, who specializes in scoring while Sutherland handles most of the writing. They were both with Walt Disney. Their first U. A. cartoon, "The Cross-Eyed Bull," is finished, and a second, "Private Pinky and the Flying Jeep," is in preparation. The team has been turning out Army and Navy training films.

Morey and Sutherland obtained their principal financial backing from John Landis, president of Coffee Corp. of America, Chicago, and through Milton Getz, vice-president of the Union Bank and Trust Co., Los Angeles.

The contact with UA marks that company's return to the cartoon field after a lapse of eight years, prior to which it released Disney's product.

Fabian, W. & V. Join Quarters Next Week

Fabian Theatres, which recently bought a partnership in the 20-house Wilmer and Vincent circuit, will establish combined offices of the two organizations in the Paramount Building here next week or the week after, it was disclosed here yesterday following the return of S. H. Fabian, president, from a two-day tour of five W. and V. theatres in Virginia. Last week he inspected the 15 Pensylvania houses.

The entire W. and V. personnel is being retained under the new set-up, with Frank Fowler, film buyer of the absorbed circuit, becoming assistant to Bernard Brooks, Fabian's chief buyer and booker.

The combined organization's officer slate includes, in addition to Fabian: Walter Vincent, chairman of the board; Samuel Rosen, vice-president and treasurer; Joseph Eagan, vice-president, and Mary Becker, secretary. The augmented Fabian circuit now numbers 60 theatres.

Roy Disney Due Here

Roy Disney, vice-president of Walt Disney Productions, is expected in New York Sunday to attend the RKO annual convention here next week. Following the meeting Disney will leave for Mexico City to discuss plans for the South American Fall premiere of "The Three Caballeros," latest Disney release, which combines animated characters and 'live' talent.



Non-stop sales drive on War Bonds and Stamps . . .



Recruiting drives for all the Services . . .



Movies for Allied prisoners of war . . . *1



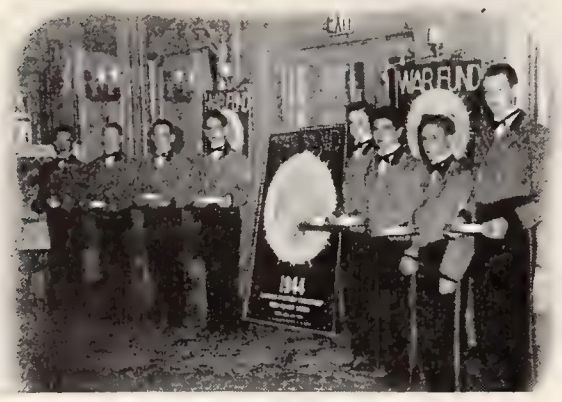
Information films for the home front . . .



On-the-spot coverage of the fighting . . . *2



Entertainment films for all of our Armed Forces . . . *3



Millions collected for the War Funds . . .



"Good Neighbor" films for the Americas . . .



"Live" shows touring the greatest entertainment circuit of all time . . . *4



Hundreds of training films to help turn out better fighters faster . . . *5

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



Movie men and women at war...

THE more we learn about the movies' part in the war, the more amazed we become at the size of the job . . . and the prouder we are to be associated with the motion picture industry. Several accomplishments of the movies at war are illustrated on this page.

Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS, *Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood*

*1—American Red Cross Photo—*2—Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo—*3—Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo—*4—USO—Camp Shows—*5—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 10 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JULY 17, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

94 in Three Companies Get Over $75,000

U. S. Releases Reports On Para., 20th, WB

WASHINGTON, July 16. — The Treasury Department today made public the annual report of officers and employees of corporations receiving compensation for personal services in excess of $75,000, covering the calendar year 1942 or fiscal years ending in 1943, but included the returns of only three of the large motion picture companies—Paramount, 20th Century and Warners.

The three companies for which figures were given listed 94 receiving in excess of $75,000 annually; there were 27 at Paramount, 39 at Twentieth

(*Continued on page 6*)

Jacocks Leaves WB; Damis Gets Post

Don Jacocks, Warner Bros. Theatres' Newark zone manager for the past 14 years has resigned from that post and has acquired five theatres of the Levenson circuit in Brookline and Quincy, Mass., which he will operate himself.

Frank Damis has been appointed by Joseph Bernhard, general manager of the Warner circuit, to succeed Jacocks as Newark zone manager. Damis has

(*Continued on page 6*)

U. S. Seizes 393 German Pictures

Washington, July 16.—Seizure of 393 motion picture copyrights owned by German nationals was announced here at the weekend by the Alien Property Custodian. Included in the list were "Two Hearts in Three-Quarter Time," "Blind Passage," "The Meistersinger" and "Sieg Im Westen."

The films taken over represented productions of Universum-Film A. G., Tobis-Cinema Film A. G., Bavaria Film A. G. and a number of other companies.

At the outbreak of the war all known German films in the U. S. were seized.

Warner Bros. Name Supplants Vitagraph

Effective Aug. 1, the name of Vitagraph, Warners' distributing organization, will be changed to Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Corp. Vitagraph, a New York corporation, was acquired by Warners in 1925 as its exchange system.

The change does not involve any revision in setup or officers of the distributing subsidiary, which is headed by Ben Kalmenson as president and Charles Einfeld, Roy Haines and Arthur Sachson as vice-presidents.

Special Citations For Bond Theatres

The industry's "Fighting Fifth" war bond committee reports that special recognition will be made of the bond-selling efforts of all exhibitors and theatre managers who send in prompt reports of their fifth war loan activities during the drive to the national committee in New York. Every theatre man who on the night of July 27 makes prompt return of the report blank which will be sent to him by the committee will be tangibly rewarded, it was stated. Only those who fill in the forms completely will be recognized in this manner, it was announced.

PRC Elects Fromkess President

Leon Fromkess was elected president and Kenneth M. Young was elected chairman of the board of PRC Pictures, Inc., PRC Productions, Inc., and PRC Studios Corp., at a board of directors' meeting held here at the weekend.



Leon Fromkess

PRC's presidency had been vacant for several months, since the resignation of O. Henry Briggs. Kenneth Young and John S. Young hold controlling interests in the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Benjamin Thau Made Loew Vice-President

HOLLYWOOD, July 16. — Benjamin Thau, assistant secretary of Loew's, Inc., and assistant to Louis B. Mayer at the M-G-M studios, has been elected a vice-president of the company.

Employed earlier at the New York Loew booking office, Thau was trans-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Hartford Is Ordered to Police Houses

Exhibitor Leaders Are Concerned Over Ruling

Exhibitor leaders and the heads of numerous circuits, both large and small, are concerned over the potentialities of a new order effected by authorities of Hartford placing a policeman or fireman in each of that city's downtown theatres, and where a policeman or fireman is not available for continuous duty, a supernumerary guard must be hired by the theatre management.

This action is a direct result of the Ringling Circus tent-fire catastrophe of last week which to date has caused 163 deaths and injury to more than 250 persons, mostly children in both cases, with several of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

40c Wage Minimum Effective Today

A 40-cent minimum wage for those employed in the film production and any incidental service activity covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act becomes effective today, as ordered by L. Metcalfe Walling, administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the U. S. Department of Labor. The minimum prescribed has but rare application in the industry, where prevailing scales have been higher for some time.

Metcalfe's order, covering also employes in finance, insurance and real

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Dragon Seed"

[*M-G-M*]

Hollywood, July 16

DRAWING upon Pearl S. Buck's novel, Marguerite Roberts and Jane Murfin have fabricated a powerful script, brought to fruition on a magnificent and sweeping canvas through the direction of Jack Conway and Harold S. Bucquet and a long array of sterling performances.

"Dragon Seed" is the story of heroic and beleaguered China, told through the eyes and reactions of its common people. Dramatic ingredients, taken apart, certainly are not new. It is familiar and outrageous to decent thinking to see helpless civilians bombed into wholesale death; accounts of pillage, marauding and rape in the Chinese theatre of war have been recounted untold times in print; the plodding resistance of the people has been recorded in news despatches. But this is the first time that all of this has been gathered together in a broad-scale motion picture.

What emerges is the first definitive effort—and it is essentially successful—to tell the well-nigh overwhelming saga of the Chinese people in their own War of Liberation against the invader. "Dragon Seed," consequently, at once becomes a significant contribution to the total cause of the Allied Nations and, as such, is an event and an attraction of stature. This epic-like account is dramatically telescoped into the specific story of one unimportant village somewhere in China's interior. It is a farming community, doing its chores and living at peace with itself

(*Continued on page 3*)

6th Loan: Nov. 11 To 'Pearl Harbor'

Plans are already under way for the Sixth War Loan, to run from Armistice Day, Nov. 11, to Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7. The industry's Eastern Public Information Committee has sent to Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, specific recommendations designed to help eliminate the last-minute rush that has characterized industry organization of bond drives to date.

Personal Mention

CHARLES PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, will return today from a brief vacation in Connecticut.

•

WILLIAM HASTINGS, head of the RKO Cincinnati personnel department and manager of the RKO Grand in Cincinnati, has returned from a Canada vacation.

•

ENRIQUE AGUILAR, Universal manager for Spain and Portugal, is in New York for home office conferences.

•

CHARLES BAILY, assistant to NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner short subjects sales manager, will return from a week's sojourn at Cape Cod today.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio general sales manager, and NAT LEVY, Eastern district sales manager, will return today from Detroit.

•

ZEIMA BROOKOV of the Warner New York talent department will return to her desk today after a brief illness.

•

AL DAFF, Universal's foreign sales supervisor, left at the weekend on a week's trip to Mexico.

•

JAMES WINN, United Artists Boston division manager, has returned from a trip around the East.

•

ARTHUR DEBRA, MPPDA executive here, is on a two weeks' vacation at his Pawling, N. Y., estate.

Skouras and 20th Group Are Due Here

Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, who has been in Hollywood inspecting "Wilson" and discussing forthcoming productions with studio heads, is expected to return to headquarters here early this week, accompanied by most of the other company executives who made the trip West with him. A. W. Smith and William J. Kupper have already returned. Others in the party are Tom Connors, Murray Silverstone, Francis Harley, L. J. Schlaifer and Sam Shain.

Sears to Leave for London This Week

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists distribution vice-president, is expected to leave for London early this week to survey UA's British operations. As previously reported he is expected to talk about United Artists quota production with J. Arthur Rank; survey the company's Odeon Circuit interests and finalize the appointment of David H. Coplan as the company's permanent managing director in Britain.

'Classics' in New Office

Film Classics took over its new suite of offices at 18 W. 48th St. at the weekend. It was also disclosed that several additions will be made to the staff within the next few months.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

AMONG recent international developments which indicate the industry's need of representatives in world capitals and the type of problem such representatives will be expected to deal with is furnished by a recent decree of the French provisional government at Algiers which placed motion pictures, along with the press and radio, under state control.

The decree, as it stands, is not merely a wartime censorship of the screen and other media of information and communication, nor is it simply a propaganda-enabling measure. Under it, theatres can not operate except with the authorization of the Commissioner of Information and only those motion pictures approved by the Information Agency could be exhibited.

The wartime operations of the American and British motion picture industries have demonstrated that essential cooperation between producers and exhibitors, on the one hand, with government and the military, on the other, can and does provide all of the services of the screen that are essential or useful to the state in wartime. The experience of the American and British screens has proved that the licensing of theatres and complete control over product by governmental bureaus, measures which fall into a pattern repugnant to democratic peoples, are wholly unnecessary.

It is not enough to say such decrees undoubtedly will be administered with discretion and that liberal policies will or can be established under them. Their very existence on the statute books is an invitation to suspicion and distrust. Measures such as the Algiers decree, whether or not they are fully utilized, are a gun pointed at the heart of the screen, as they are at the hearts of press and radio.

To oppose such measures when they are in the making, to register the industry's objections to and condemnation of them when they are enacted; to protect American films from discriminatory action in the administration of such measures and to work for their modification or elimination are among the tasks, the most important ones, which will confront the foreign envoys of the American industry who are to be appointed in the months and years to come.

It is a task far greater in import and responsibility than any involved in the commercial marketing of American product abroad, for the markets themselves will be non-existent if that primary task is not, first and always, given effectual attention.

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Attorneys for consent decree companies are expressing the opinion that a final decision on whether or not there will be a new consent decree may be made about the end of this month. It is expected that there will be several more conferences between the companies and the Department of Justice within the next week or 10 days, but that such conferences will be concerned primarily, if not entirely, with the phraseology of the new proposals for an amended decree. The belief is that no further changes of any moment will be made in the proposals as they now stand, and that the Department's final decision, as well as the companies', will be made within a few days following the conferences.

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Many at Universal agreed with trade reviewers who wrote, in appraising "Christmas Holiday," the picture in which Deanna Durbin grows up to be a big, bad girl, that the box office would have to furnish the answer to whether or not Deanna would be accepted (profitably, of course) by the public in her new role. The box office, never silent, has been particularly outspoken in the case of "Holiday." Universal reports the picture has been held over in all of its first 17 engagements, which include New York, Atlanta, St. Louis, San Francisco, and Minneapolis. In the same engagements it has outgrossed every previous Durbin picture and in some of them it is returning bigger grosses than any other picture heretofore released by Universal, according to the company's records.

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And speaking of grosses, travelers returning from Hollywood report that Y. Frank Freeman and Buddy De Sylva have revised their previous estimates of the worldwide gross of "Going My Way" from the original $6,000,000 to a current $12,000,000. Home office estimates are around $7,500,000.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 16

JACK L. WARNER has assigned Jean Tegulesco to direct "Nobody Lives Forever," Robert Buckner production starring John Garfield. W. R. Burnett made the adaptation from his own novel.

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Morton Nathanson, Samuel Goldwyn's Eastern advertising and publicity representative, has arrived for conferences on "The Princess and the Pirate."

Kentucky Exhibitors' Group Incorporates

LOUISVILLE, July 16.—The Kentucky Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors, organized about a year ago, has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state at Frankfort as a non-profit organization with indebtedness limited to $15,000. Incorporators are Andy Anderson and W. Freeman Smith, exhibitors of Hartford and Beaver Dam, respectively, and Nell G. Borden, secretary to Harry J. Stites, as attorney for the group. D. L. Thornton, Versailles, has been serving as executive director.

Basic objectives of the association are: repeal of Federal and state admission taxes, encouragement of high film standards, support of advantageous community projects, and war bond sales.

Davis Leaving for Canada at Once

LONDON, July 16.—The projected trip of John Davis, Odeon Theatres' managing director, to Canada and thence to the U. S. on behalf of J. Arthur Rank's worldwide distribution setup, will be made immediately, Rank announced officially here at the weekend, adding that Davis "anticipates an extended visit."

Official announcement of a similar visit to India and the Far East by E. T. Carr, executive associate of Rank, as reported Thursday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, is expected in the near future.

Film Saved as Robot Wrecks W. B. Studio

LONDON, July 16.—Although all equipment was destroyed when a robot bomb damaged Warner's Teddington studio early this month, not a foot of film was lost, it is now disclosed. Max Milder's production of "Flight from Folly" had been completed the previous Friday.

Along with A. M. (Doc.) Solomon, whose death "by enemy action" in Southern England was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY July 7, his secretary and another were killed in the studio bombing.

Mundiales to Troullet

MEXICO CITY, July 16. — Carlos Troullet has purchased the controlling interest in Films Mundiales, leading Mexican production company.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, President and Editor-in-Chief; Colvin Brown, Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sunday and holidays by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Colvin Brown, Vice-President; Red Kann, Vice-President; T. J. Sullivan, Secretary; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Ave.; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." All contents copyrighted 1944 by Quigley Publishing Co., Inc. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Dismissal of L.A. Complaint Appealed

G. L. Smith, operator of the York Theatre, Los Angeles, has filed with the American Arbitration Association's appeal board an appeal from the dismissal of his clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, the AAA disclosed here at the weekend.

Complainant demanded that the seven days clearance of the Park and Franklin, Los Angeles, be eliminated and that the York be granted the same availability as other Los Angeles suburban theatres charging the same admission. Complainant also demanded that it be permitted to have 49 days clearance after the Los Angeles first runs at its admission price of 30 cents and 35 days after first-run closing at its proposed price of 35 cents.

Irving Stalmaster, arbitrator in the Los Angeles tribunal, ruled on June 21 that all theatres involved were competitive and that the existing clearance was reasonable. East River Theatre Corp. and Laemmle Theatres were intervenors.

Siccardi President Of N. J. Theatres

Joseph J. Siccardi of the Liberty Theatre, Plainfield, N. J., was elected president of the Associated Theatres of New Jersey at the annual luncheon meeting of that film buying organization held late last week at the Newark Athletic Club.

Other officers named were: Jack Unger, Mayfair Theatre, Hillside, vice-president; Sidney Seligman, Embassy Theatre, Newark, treasurer; Max Rothman, Alvin Theatre, Guttenberg, secretary. Irving Dollinger, retiring president who has served as head of the group for six years, was named honorary president.

Announcement of the appointment of Jack Meltzer as film buyer was also made at the meeting.

Navy, Boat-Makers At Warner Show

A group of naval officers and heroes, executives of the Packard and Elco companies which are engaged in the production of P-T boats for the Navy, and others will attend a press preview of "Devil Boats," Warner color service special, tomorrow afternoon in the Warner home office.

Among those who will be present as guests of Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, are Lieut. Clark W. Faulkner, naval hero who appears in the picture; Lieut. Commander Francis D. Tappan, Lieut. James J. Cross, Lieut. Richard Lamborn; Preston Sutphen, president of Elco; Carroll Van Arck of the Young & Rubicam agency, and others.

"Devil Boats" tells the story of the P-T fighting craft and was produced with the cooperation of the Navy.

Sistrom and Butler to Assist Ginsberg

HOLLYWOOD, July 16.—Joseph Sistrom, producer, and Frank Butler, writer, were appointed production assistants to Henry Ginsberg.

"Dragon Seed"

[M-G-M]

(*Continued from page 1*)

and its neighbors. Family life is the great denominator. There are little bickerings and minute misunderstandings, but they are trifling as against the common bond.

Into this calm scene come Japanese warplanes and Japanese foot soldiers, hell-bent along their conquering road. Theirs are the machines of war and theirs is the victory, of course. The simple village people are confused, dismayed, unorganized. The harsh boot of the invader is at their throat and on their neck. The old people face utter defeat, but the young people, altered by changing times and pressured by desperation into their slowly developed surge toward resistance and freedom, spark the change. Guerilla warfare is organized and, finally, the policy of the scorched earth is applied at the end as Walter Huston, the village patriarch, eventually sees the way, abandons the land of his ancestors and moves toward Free China to resume his ancient and honorable calling of tilling the soil for the armies of his country. With him goes his infant grandson, his hope for the future, for in him is the seed of the dragon. This is the foundation line.

The film, of course is developed through many dramatic facets. There is Katharine Hepburn, as courageous Jade who disposes of a whole Japanese command by poison. Stalwart in his final strength is Huston. Stalwart counterfoil by his side is Aline MacMahon, who plays his wife; Akim Tamiroff, as a Chinese Quisling, who meets the death which faces his kind, is handicapped in believability by his Russian accent, but his performance is strong. Hurd Hatfield, as the third son, approaches the standout division, as does Agnes Moorehead, whose incisive and embittered characterization easily is one of the best. While starred, Miss Hepburn goes along in the stream of the cast yet cuts her own impressive niche in a difficult part hitherto foreign to her. Turhan Bey, as her husband, suffers through an accent hardly identifiable with China, but, in the main, makes his role reasonably credible. Metro pulled stoppers, production-wise, on "Dragon Seed." Settings and scope are formidable, aided notably by expertness of Sidney Wagner's camera control. Pandro S. Berman produced.

Running time, 148 minutes. "G"* Release not set.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

Columbia Files for Montague Warrants

Columbia will submit an amendment to its recent registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, covering 7,880 warrants convertible into an equivalent number of shares of no par value common stock which registration statement also covers these shares. The warrants were issued some time ago to A. Montague, Vice-President and general sales manager.

The amended registration statement will disclose that Montague has converted 2,000 of the warrants into an equal amount of common stock which has been issued in his name and that he has sold an additional 2,000 warrants at the equivalent of $21.50 per share of common stock.

Golding Given Wilmer & Vincent Post

The recent purchase by Fabian Theatres of the Wilmer and Vincent Circuit, has brought several promotions, according to a statement released over the week-end by S. H. Fabian and Sam Rosen.

Lou Golding, division manager for the Fabian circuit in Albany, becomes division manager for the Wilmer & Vincent part of the circuit, with the spot vacated by Golding taken over by Saul Ullman. Ullman formerly was the Schenectady city manager. Ullman's post, in turn, is to be filled by Guy Graves.

Seek Wage Boost for Chicago Exchanges

CHICAGO, July 16.—The IATSE exchange service employes' Local B-45 will shortly file with the War Labor Board here for approval of a 10 per cent increase. According to Sam Lamansky, business agent of the local, the New York offices of the distributors have approved the increase and the application for filing.

The distributors had previously approved the filing by the Seattle IATSE service employes' local, and are expected to approve applications of locals in other exchange cities as they are prepared.

Weshner to Represent Nebenzahl in East

David E. (Skip) Weshner has been appointed Eastern representative for Seymour Nebenzahl's Angelus Pictures. He will handle contracts, sales, publicity and advertising on the film "Summer Storm," being released by United Artists.

Weshner also handles several other accounts.

Benny in New Guinea

Jack Benny and Carole Landis have arrived in New Guinea by plane to begin a tour of camps in that area, according to weekend press dispatches from Port Moresby. With them are Martha Tilton, singer; Larry Adler, harmonica player, and Peggy Bruner, accompanist. They were greeted by Lieut. Lanny Ross, former film tenor.

WB File Appeal in De Havilland Ruling

LOS ANGELES, July 16.—Warner Bros. at the weekend appealed to the State Supreme Court from the Superior Court's decision on March 14 last declaring Olivia De Havilland's contract with the studio terminated. The Warner move followed the star's filing in the Superior Court on Friday asking an injunction to restrain the studio from influencing others against giving her employment by alleged telegraphic communication asserting she was still committed to Warner Bros. for a period of weeks contrary to the March 14 decision.

California Owners Elect 12 Directors

SAN FRANCISCO, July 16.—At the annual meeting of the California Theatres Association, held at the Palace Hotel, a board of 12 directors was elected to serve for one year.

Elected were: Irving Ackerman, Downtown Amusement Co.; Joseph Blumenfeld, Blumenfeld Theatres; William David, Sunny-Mount Theatres; Cliff Giessman, RKO Golden Gate; Rotus Harvey, Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California; Ben Levin, General Theatrical Co.; Robert Lippert, Lippert Theatres; Robert McNeil, Golden State Theatres; M. A. Naify, T & D. Jr. Enterprises; B. V. Sturdivant, Fox West Coast Theatres; Herman Wobber, 20th Century-Fox Films.

Sturdivant, president of the association, who presided at the meeting, will call the board together in a few days for organization and election of officers.

Film Exports to Canada Increase

WASHINGTON, July 16.—Exports of motion picture film from this country to Canada in 1942 amounted to 41,567,000 linear feet, valued at $949,000, compared with 29,244,000 feet, valued at $762,000 in 1941, it was reported here today by the Department of Commerce.

In addition, Canada imported from the United States $3,684,000 worth of photographic and projection goods, compared with $3,296,000 worth in 1941, figures compiled by the Department disclosed.

$23,031 Given to Catholic Charities

John J. O'Connor, Universal Pictures vice-president, reported Saturday $23,031 has been collected by the motion pictures division of the Archbishop's Committee of the Laity in the 1944 Appeal for New York Catholic Charities. Bert Sanford, Altec Service Corp., is vice-chairman of the motion pictures division. The solicitation is continuing. The next report for the committee will be made on Sept. 6.

PIC to Meet Bi-weekly

The industry's Public Information Committee, Eastern division, will meet on alternate Thursdays for the remainder of the Summer instead of each Thursday as heretofore. A session is scheduled for this week.

That's cookin' with GAS



RKO

THE SHOWMANSHIP COMPANY

W
IESS

ADE

MARINE
RAIDERS

DAYS OF
GLORY

Walt Disney's
SNOW WHITE

Hartford Is Ordered to Police Houses

(*Continued from page* 1)

injured still on the critical list.

Final responsibility for the continuous maintenance of police or fire guards apparently would rest with the theatre management, and, importantly, the policeman or fireman, whether provided by the city or engaged independently by the theatre, are compelled to report to their superiors every day on the strict compliance of the theatre to the new order. Reports are to be turned over to Hartford fire marshall Henry G. Thomas.

At a meeting of Hartford's board of police commissioners this week, deputy chief Michael A. Godfrey warned against theatres being unprotected during mornings, lunch periods and at other times.

Concern in exhibition quarters over the arbitrary policing of theatres and the placing of its responsibility on theatre management follows the alarm caused over New York State's new pending building code with its threatening drastic changes, involving considerable structural alterations, and applying to most of the 1,200 motion picture theatres in places which have no code. The threat is of significance not only to exhibitors in New York State, but is greatly broadened by the fact that New York building codes are widely referred to by authorities in many other states in drawing up building regulations, and the Hartford fire and panic immediately prompted authorities in many places to look to possible tightening of the building codes and fire rules for places of public assembly.

Ontario Tightens Safety Requirements

TORONTO, July 16.—Following the circus catastrophe at Hartford, Conn., and the Moose Temple fire at Hamilton, Ont., which claimed 160 and 10 lives, respectively, the Toronto Board of Control has launched an investigation into safety conditions of all public halls and theatres and itinerant tent shows, with a view to more rigid requirements for safety.

A Royal Commission is also simultaneously sitting in Toronto to investigate public halls and theatres throughout Ontario and the manner in which Provincial and municipal safety regulations are being enforced. Tightened restrictions are promised as a result of recent disasters.

Massachusetts Would Legislate Circuses

BOSTON, July 16.—Three bills have been proposed in the Massachusetts legislature designed to prevent a repetition here of the Hartford circus fire disaster.

All circuses and tent shows would be banned in the state until they have satisfied authorities that their tents are fireproof and fire inspectors have investigated and given their approval.

Weiner Leaves Warners

Sid Weiner, assistant to Jules Girden in Warner Bros.' Theatres booking department in New York, has resigned to join Film Classics. Weiner was with Warners for 14 years.

94 in Three Companies Receive Over $75,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

Century-Fox, and 28 at Warner Brothers.

Amounts of compensation reported represent gross sums paid to individuals by employers as set forth in SEC public records. They do not give effect to deductions for normal Federal or state income taxes and surtaxes which, in the majority of instances represented in these reports, range from 72 to 88 per cent of net income after allowable deductions.

Reports on the other companies will be published in supplementary SEC lists, scheduled to be issued some weeks hence.

The highest sum (not salary) shown in the report, $645,000, was paid by 20th Century-Fox to Sidney R. Fleisher, but this figure is expected to be exceeded in the supplementary list, which will include the figure on Louis B. Mayer of M-G-M, for some years the highest-paid executive in the country.

(Home office executives of 20th Century-Fox and a spokesman for Fleisher in New York explained that the $645,000 paid Fleisher merely represents monies paid by the company for screen rights to Broadway plays and is not compensation for services rendered. Fleisher is an attorney who acts as arbiter of the Dramatists' Guild. All sales of legitimate plays to film companies where the playwrights involved are members of the Dramatists' Guild are cleared through Fleisher. He in turn handles the distribution of the sale price to the author, producer and others who are entitled to share in the proceeds. Fleisher receives a yearly retainer from the Dramatists' Guild for his services.)

Three Reports

The three reports follow:

Paramount Pictures, year ended Dec. 31, 1942: Charles Brackett, $90,900; Frank Russell Butler, $86,950; Rene Chamette (Rene Clair), $84,317; Claudette Colbert, $360,000; Harry L. (Bing) Crosby, $336,111; George G. DeSylva, salary, $223,416, other compensation, $90,100; total, $313,517; Y. Frank Freeman, $130,000; Henry Ginsberg, $114,375; Paulette Goddard, $152,500; Edward H. Griffith, $91,379; Bob Hope, $148,333; Dorothy S. Kaumeyer (Dorothy Lamour), $127,416; Austin C. Keough, $78,000; James Mitchell Leisen, $145,884; Fred MacMurray, $347,333; Fredric March, $100,000; George Marshall, $131,708; Joel McCrea, $90,000; Raymond Milland, $130,166; Victor Fred Moore, $103,125; Ginger Rogers, $245,000; Mark Rex Sandrich, $112,000; Preston Sturges, $229,000; Franchot Tone, $121,000; Harry Tugend, $119,250; Sam Wood, $111,625; Adolph Zukor, $104,000.

Twentieth Century-Fox, year ended Dec. 31, 1942: Don F. Ameche, $194,500; Joan Bennett, $81,904; Jack Benny, $125,000; Milton Berle, $82,500; Thomas J. Connors, salary $96,750, other compensation $11,323, total, $108,073; Irving Cummings, $138,666; Henry Fonda, $167,625; Bryan Foy, $169,000; Jean Alexis Gabin, $100,000; William Goetz, salary $155,500, other compensation $200, total $155,700; Betty Grable, $92,375; Henry L. Hathaway, $145,888; Ben Hecht, $141,500; Sonja Henie, $100,000; Nunnally H. Johnson, $182,000; Robert T. Kane, $104,000; Henry King, $135,833; Walter R. Lang, $141,166; William Koenig, $85,500; William LeBaron, $156,000; Ernest Lubitsch, $138,000; Archie Louis Mayo, $119,425; Carmen Miranda, salary, $33,750; bonus, $50,000; total, $83,750; Thomas Mitchell, $128,269; Alfred Newman, $78,000; Jack Oakie, $135,208; William Perlberg, $101,400; Tyrone Power, salary, $162,872; other compensation, $12,500; total, $175,372; Cesar Romero, $95,125; Morrie Ryskind, $81,666; Spyros P. Skouras, salary, $173,076; other compensation, $1,500; total, $174,576; John M. Stahl, $80,500; Joseph Swerling, $126,250; Gene Tierney, $75,850; Lamar Trotti, $101,250; William A. Wellman, $155,000; Sol M. Wurtzel, salary, $114,666.66; other compensation, $90; total, $114,756; Darryl F. Zanuck, salary, $175,000; other compensation, $100; total, $175,100.

WB Fiscal Year

Warner Brothers, year ended Aug. 31, 1943: Lloyd Bacon, $128,333; Joseph Bernhard, salary, $112,500; other compensation, $19,000; total, $131,500; Henry Blanke, $121,500; Humphrey Bogart, $114,125; David Butler, $156,875; Michael Curtiz, $193,152; Bette Davis, $220,000; Olivia De Havilland, $79,916; Errol Flynn, $175,000; Leo Forbstein, $78,000; Jules Garfield, $79,125; Benjamin F. Glazer, $86,000; Cary Grant, $100,000; Howard Hawks, $107,500; Mark Hellinger, $156,000; Sam Hellman, $78,000; Paul Henried, $105,937; Walter Huston, $118,333; Jesse L. Lasky, Sr., $91,266; Ida Lupino, $142,750; Sam Schneider, salary, $65,000; other compensation, $13,000; total, $78,000; Ann Sheridan, $82,333; Max Steiner, $85,800; Raoul Walsh, $123,750; H. B. Wallis, $208,000; Albert Warner, salary, $91,000; other compensation, $13,000; total, $104,600; H. M. Warner, $182,000; J. L. Warner, $182,000; Sam Wood, $157,199.97 (additional to the $111,625 paid him by Paramount).

California reports showed that Fox West Coast Agency Corp. paid Charles P. Skouras a salary of $132,500 in 1942 and in the same year National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc., paid him other compensation of $130,589. National Theatres also paid Spyros P. Skouras $40,000 salary and $44,810 other compensation, a total of $84,810.62 to add to the $174,576.84 he received from Twentieth Century-Fox.

Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., Ltd., for the year ended Dec. 14, 1942, paid Gary Cooper $247,397, and $100,000 to Bob Hope on top of Hope's $148,333 from Paramount. Hal Roach Studios, Inc., reported $12,374.97 in salary and $65,241 bonus, a total of $77,616, paid to William E. Bendix for the year ended Aug. 31, 1943.

Other reports of interest to the industry included the following: Atlas Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1942: Floyd B. Odlum, $100,000; Columbia Broadcasting, year ended Dec. 31, 1942: William Paley, $185,820; Eastman Kodak, year ended Dec. 31, 1942: T. J. Hargrave, $108,986; Frank W. Lovejoy, $92,490; H. C. Sievers, $77,925; A. F. Sulzer, $108,986; RCA, year ended Dec. 31, 1942: David Sarnoff, salary, $100,000; other compensation, $900; total, $100,900.

Also: United Artists Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1942: Gradwell L. Sears, $130,000; Vitagraph, Inc., year ended Aug. 31, 1943: Charles Einfeld, salary, $104,000; other compensation, $26,000; total, $130,000; Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp., year ended Aug. 31, 1943; I. J. Hoffman, salary, $52,000; bonus, $28,461; total, $80,461.

Fromkess Elected PRC President

(*Continued from page* 1)

corporation.

PRC's board of directors also elected Arthur B. Johnson to the office of secretary and treasurer. Leo J. McCarthy continues as general sales manager in charge of distribution and Roberto D. Socas as foreign sales manager.

Fromkess, formerly vice-president of PRC, and who is in entire charge of production, will leave New York for Hollywood on Wednesday, after a visit of three weeks, "to put into effect a greatly expanded production schedule based on extra appropriations recently voted for that purpose."

Rennie Purchaser for Canada Film Board

OTTAWA, July 16.—M. S. Rennie, formerly of the U. S. Treasury procurement division, Lansing, Mich., has been appointed chief purchasing officer of the National Film Board of Canada, succeeding Wesley Greene, who held the post temporarily and will become coordinator of distribution for the board, which produces instructional and morale pictures for the Armed Forces and public of the Dominion.

Jacocks Leaves WB; Damis Gets Post

(*Continued from page* 1)

come up from the Warner ranks, starting 15 years ago in the booking department of the home office, and successively filling the posts of film buyer and booker in the Newark zone, then to Pittsburgh in the same post, returning to Newark 10 years ago as film buyer and assistant zone manager.

Benjamin Thau Made Loew Vice-President

(*Continued from page* 1)

ferred here in 1929 and became casting director. Returning from a scouting trip to Europe in 1932, he was given charge of contractual assignments and arrangements for talent and the more prominent personalities.

40c Wage Minimum Effective Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

estate, was made recently following recommendations of "Industry Committee No. 68," which held a public hearing in New York on Nov. 23, 1943.



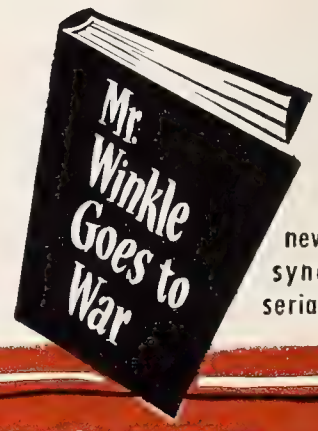
Mr. Winkle Goes to War...



...and your heart goes with him



...laughing, loving, deeply sympathizing...as you follow the most human character ever to come out of a best-selling novel ...into a great *escapist comedy!*



(It's a newspaper-syndicated serial, too!)

Edward G. ROBINSON

in COLUMBIA PICTURES'

Mr. Winkle Goes to War

with RUTH WARRICK · TED DONALDSON · BOB HAYMES

Screen Play by Waldo Salt, George Corey, Louis Solomon

From the best-selling novel by THEODORE PRATT

Produced by JACK MOSS · Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN



PRINTED IN U.S.A.

'Gaslight' Grosses $7,000 Over Par

SAN FRANCISCO, July 16.—Strong film shows are keeping the Market Street box office tone firm with a heavy weekend business an important factor. Several above-average returns are reported, with the top, comparatively, going to "Gaslight," doing $17,000 at the State where par is $7,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 11-13:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Minstrel Man" (PRC)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,100. (Average: $14,000).
'Days of Glory" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
"Trocadero" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $9,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, moved over from Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,000).
"The Hairy Ape"
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $11,000).

'Holiday' Is Big On $20,000 Take

ST. LOUIS, July 16.—"Christmas Holiday" at the Ambassador is the first choice of St. Louis patrons this week and looks like a big $20,000. Receipts at other first-runs are about normal.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 12:

"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500, (Average: $18,700).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
"Yellow Rose of Texas" (Rep.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,900).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Yellow Canary" (Wilcox-RKO)
AMBASSADOR — (3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,700).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $18,900).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
"The Black Parachute" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
SHUBERT — (1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100).
"The Fleet's In" (Para.)
"My Favorite Blonde" (Para.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000 (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,200).

Fund Gets Record Take

The Stage Relief Fund here yesterday disclosed that it had collected $25,587 for theatrical charity groups from 11 benefit shows this season. This sum is the highest in the Fund's history. Since 1932 the organization has given $393,641 to charity groups in the entertainment industry.

Reviews

"48 Hours"

(Ealing-AFE)

HERE is a film the majority of customers will probably relish, viewing it as they do a Hitchcock thriller, with which it has a great deal in common, and not bothering too much about wartime connotations that fall short of their desired effect. The story tells of a small group of Germans, who, disguised as Royal Engineers, take over a mythical English village and imprison the natives in order to jam the radios during a Nazi invasion. The present remoteness of all this, plus the high odds against the daring band, will hurt "48 Hours" for those who cannot help viewing it on a plane with "The North Star."

To cope with the structural limitations, however, a magnificent job has been done by producer Michael Balcon, scriptwriter Graham Greene, director Cavalcanti and a large cast with some of the Empire's biggest drawing names. Leslie Banks as the local Quisling, Basil Sydney as the German commander, Valerie Taylor as the woman who first sees through the ruse, C. V. France as the old vicar who gives his life ringing the church bell for help, Harry Fowler as a refugee boy who crawls wounded to the next town, Frank Lawton as a visiting sailor who leads the bloody resistance, and the Gloucestershire Regiment, which (by permission of the War Office) comes to the rescue—all are tops.

Exhibitors may be sorry to find that there is no conventional love interest, but they can put down "48 Hours" as crowded with excitement for the masses and ornamented for the classes with countryside art photography and fine character portrayal. Too bad it could not have been offered fairly soon after Dunkirk. The film was produced and distributed in England as "Went the Day Well."

Running time, 88 minutes. "G"* Release date not net.

TOM LOY

"Dixie Jamboree"

(PRC)

Hollywood, July 16

WITH the names of Frances Langford, Guy Kibbee, Eddie Quillan, Charles Butterworth, Fifi D'Orsay, Lyle Talbot, Frank Jenks and Louise Beavers to attract the customers, this Jack Schwarz comedy with music compares to advantage with that producer's previous offerings in point of saleability. Five songs by Michael Breen and Sam Neuman are performed in the course of the proceedings, "If It's a Dream," sung by Miss Langford, possessing the stuff of which hits are made.

Utilizing materials not overworked for comedy, the script by Sam Neuman, based on an original by Lawrence E. Taylor, concerns a couple of racketeers who hide out on the last showboat plying the Mississippi —the time is today—and try to steal it. Aboard the boat is staged the old-fashioned kind of show, inclusive of the sale of patent medicine, fitted out with modern tunes and a whimsical trumpeter. Most of the humor is of the kind that requires a houseful of customers to make it spark, but there is a plenitude of this.

Direction by Christy Cabanne is keyed to the comedy throughout. Harry D. Edwards served as associate producer.

Running time, 72 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Return of the Ape Man"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, July 16

ONE thing to do with this chiller-diller is to play it for laughs instead of straight and capitalize thus on the availability of Bela Lugosi, John Carradine and George Zucco—exponents of frightfulness thrown for individual and collective losses by script, dialogue and direction that are triumphs in absurdity—for billing purposes. It was previewed straight at a Hollywood theatre where the audience enjoyed it immensely as an unintentional comedy. It can be marketed that way elsewhere, but not even the kiddies can be asked to take it seriously.

Robert Charles' story and screenplay presents Lugosi as a scientist who finds a prehistoric man frozen in a glacier, thaws him out and, when he turns out to be a killer, fits him out with a section of his best friend's brain, after which he continues to kill, although taking time out to play Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" on the piano and traipse over rooftops with a girl over his shoulder. All the players talk and act like long past time to knock off for lunch. The Sam Katzman-Jack Dietz combination produced the film, with Barney Sarecky as associate, and Philip Rosen as director.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G."* Release date, June 17.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

$14,500 for Three From 'Indiana'

KANSAS CITY, July 16.—The temperature raged in the top 90's all week, but theatres were cool and business was good all around. The Esquire, Uptown and Fairway did around $14,500 with "Home in Indiana" in its second week. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" ran on in glory for a second week to score around $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 11-14:

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Jam Session" (Col.)
"Slightly Terrific" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $9,400).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,600).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600).

'Eve' and 'Bermuda' Share Top Honors

CLEVELAND, July 16.—"The Eve of St. Mark," with an estimated $10,000 at the Allen, divided top honors with "Bermuda Mystery" and Count Basie's orchestra which are shooting at $30,000 at the RKO Palace. "The Sullivans" in its second week topped the four holdovers with a big $3,750. Weather was unseasonably hot.

Estimated receipts for week ended July 13:

"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN — (3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $22,100).
"The Sullivans" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $3,100).
"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Count Basie's orchestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25,400).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $19,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

Ross Names Dobbs to New Southwest Post

C. H. Dobbs has been named to the newly created position of southwestern district manager for Ross Federal Service. Dobbs, who will make his headquarters in Dallas, was formerly manager of the Ross Charlotte branch.

Succeeding him in Charlotte is Milton Kress, New Orleans branch manager. C. H. Crossley, service manager at the New Orleans office, has been promoted to Kress' post.



Advertising that sells your attractions quickest and most completely—is the STRONGEST! Advertising that buyers can hear as well as see—is the RAREST! Advertising that is created by quarter-of-a-century experts—is the SUREST! Advertising that entertains prospects while it is selling them—is the SAFEST! Advertising that reaches most people and costs least—is the CHEAPEST! That is why exhibitors who use this company's Advertising year in and year out are sitting pretty.



NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES • TRAILERS • SPECIAL ACCESSORIES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 11 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

No Governm't Decree Action For 2 Weeks

Still No Meeting Set Between U.S., Majors

WASHINGTON, July 17.—Final decision of the Department of Justice whether to accept the distributors' proposed consent decree will not be reached before the end of this month, it was learned here today. There has been no meeting set with the majors on the final draft.

Because of the fact that interested Government officials have seldom, if at all, been in Washington at the same time during recent weeks, it has been impossible for Attorney-General Francis Biddle, Assistant Attorney-General Tom C. Clark, in charge of decree negotiations; Wendell Berge, chief of the anti-trust division, and

(*Continued on page* 10)

B'way Grosses Are Down

The exodus to the beaches, travel limitations which are cutting down the influx of visitors into the city, the heat, and the lack of strong product in many places are all held responsible for the absence of any outstanding grossers at downtown New York first-run houses this week.

The new entries at the Paramount and the Roxy are doing modest business. The initial week of "And the Angels Sing" and a stage bill headed by Perry Como and Jerry Wald and his band at the Paramount is expected

(*Continued on page* 8)

May Drop 'Locally Needed' Efforts

Decision on whether or take any further steps in the effort to obtain "locally-needed" designations for exchange workers or to let the matter drop will be made here tomorrow at a meeting of the War Activities Committee's distributors division, called by Ned E. Depinet, division chairman.

Following War Manpower Commission approval of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh exchange help as "locally

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Fighting 5th' Asks More Bond Aid

With less than two weeks remaining in which theatres can continue the sale of war bonds to individuals which will be credited to the Fifth War Loan, many states must still make extra efforts to reach their goals by July 31, particularly in the "E" bond series, the industry's "Fighting Fifth" war loan headquarters here advised yesterday.

While latest figures of total sales of bonds to individuals are not available, it was said that the country's $6,000,000,000 quota in this category is still far from attainment.

War Surplus To Aid Films

Postwar disposal of Government-owned war materials, which include an estimated hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of projectors and all sorts of theatre and production equipment, need not seriously interfere with the readjustment of business and manufacture of such items to peacetime conditions, according to a statement on national policy issued here by the Committee for Economic Development.

"If the war should end tomorrow," CED estimates, "Government-owned

(*Continued on page* 11)

Producers Issue 11 Counter-Proposals To Studio Unions

LOS ANGELES, July 17.—The office of Pat Casey, labor representative of the Producers, has issued counter-proposals to 11 organizations comprising the Conference of Studio Unions which sought upward wage revisions and other changes affecting working conditions.

The unions will consider the studio proposals with leave to report back at their own convenience. Since any modifications will be retroactive, it is believed likely that the negotiations will continue for several weeks.

Warners Considering Brazil 'Showcases'

Warners is considering setting up new theatres in Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and other key cities in Brazil when the present ban on building materials is lifted in that country, according to Ary Lima, the company's manager in Brazil.

Conferences with home office and studio executives have resulted in the conclusion by Warners that in line with postwar expansion in South America it would be a "good idea" to establish showcases in these cities, Lima said.

Although Brazilian newspapers have had the number of their pages cut, film advertising has not been restricted, Warners' Brazilian manager declared. Lima will return to Brazil Friday,

(*Continued on page* 8)

Long Runs Are Growing Longer in Chicago Area

CHICAGO, July 17.—Extended runs in the Loop are aggravating the picture shortage situation in this area. Never before have as many Loop theatres held pictures for such lengthy engagements, due, of course, to improved business conditions. And, too, a strong picture can now hold up almost twice as long as it could only two years ago. Exhibitors blame this development on the growing number of neighborhood theatre patrons who are now seeing pictures in first-run houses.

Two of the outstanding examples are "Going My Way" at the Chicago, which started its sixth week Friday, and "Up in Arms" at the Woods,

(*Continued on page* 8)

Canada Closes for Group Holidays

Toronto, July 17.—Considered a startling development in Canada is the closing of a number of theatres for summer periods for the announced purpose of joint holidays for the whole staff, or for extensive repairs, but it is known that business has fallen off considerably through a combination of circumstances, including war casualty news, intense heat wave and the general booking of reissues.

371 Features Promised For 1944-45

Reports Received from 9 of 11 Companies

Actual commitments and inside reports of intended commitments of the first nine companies out of 11 to decide on product totals for the 1944-45 lineup show from 371 to 376 features for the new season and the early part of the following season, compared with 366 to be delivered during 1943-44 and 441 in the full pre-Pearl Harbor year of 1941-42 for the nine companies.

M-G-M, which made 48 features three years ago, will have about 35 for the coming year, one more than the current season.

Warners will equal and possibly exceed their 1943-44 total of 19, it was

(*Continued on page* 10)

Loew Pension Vote Today

Reelection of Loew's present board of directors for the ensuing year and ratification of a pension plan affecting some 4,300 employes, are expected at a special meeting of the company's stockholders here today. J. Robert Rubin, vice-president, will preside, and a quorum has been assured.

Directors renominated by the management are: Rubin, David Bernstein, Leopold Friedman, Eugene W. Leake, Charles S. Moskowitz, William A. Parker, Nicholas M. Schenck, Joseph R. Vogel, David Warfield and

(*Continued on page* 8)

Pine-Thomas Sign New Para. Pact

HOLLYWOOD, July 17.—With one year still to go on their present Paramount contract, which calls for a minimum of six pictures annually, the producing team of William Pine and William Thomas have been signed by Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of studio operations, for two more years, extending their affiliation to Aug. 1, 1948.

The first picture on the Pine-Thomas 1944-45 schedule will be

(*Continued on page* 8)

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 17

WILLIAM DOZIER whose Paramount contract was renewed Friday for two years today asked and received his release from the pact. Pending his permanent replacement, Meta Reis, his assistant, will perform Dozier's duties.

•

Frank Smith resigned from the M-G-M publicity department to join Samuel Bronston Productions as director of advertising and publicity.

•

Abe Lastfogel, executive of USO-Camp Shows and of the William Morris Agency, entrained for New York today after three months here.

•

M-G-M added to its schedule "I Can if I Try" with Sam Marx writing and producing.

•

Vanguard has extended producer Dore Schary's contract for five years. "Houdini" will be his next production.

•

Herbert J. Yates arrived today from New York.

•

N. Peter Rathvon, president RKO, will entrain for New York tomorrow.

•

PRC appointed Vance King studio publicity director.

Warners Disposes of 2nd Earle Property

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., July 17.—Warners' Earle Theatre, originally built in 1936 at a cost of $1,000,000, was sold to Southwestern Market, for $135,500, it was announced by Albert M. Greenfield & Co. of Philadelphia, representing Warners' Stanley Co. The purchasing company proposes to raze the building and improve the site with stores. Earlier this month, Warners' Earle Theatre Building in Philadelphia was sold to the W. T. Grant chain stores for post-war construction as a department store.

The Earle here was originally opened as a combination house, featuring vaudeville and pictures. But the policy was unsuccessful and the house was darkened about 12 years ago. Earlier this year, Warners' re-opened the house for revivals.

Stewart on Wing Com.

Lt. Col. James Stewart has been promoted to chief of staff on a B-24 combat wing, according to a dispatch reaching here from an Allied air base in England. Lt. Col. Stewart, who has flown 14 missions and holds several citations, was previously an operations officer for the "Liberator group.

Perfecto Chartered

ALBANY, N. Y., July 17.—Perfecto Amusement Corp., to deal in motion pictures and plays, has been certified here by Jean Goldwarm, Leon Savage and Frances Asch of New York.

Personal Mention

DAVID BERNSTEIN, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, left New York yesterday for a vacation of several weeks.

•

BUDD ROGERS will attend the wedding of his niece, GLORIA ROGERS, to LIEUT. (j.g.) ALLEN GOPEN of the Navy, in Boston today. On Friday he will visit his son, RICHARD ROGERS, stationed at Ft. Bragg, N. C.

•

AL WEINBERG, formerly associated with the Benjamin Banowitz Circuit, Chicago, has left that city for Hollywood.

•

TOM GILLIAM, 20th Century-Fox exchange manager in Chicago, has been notified of the promotion of Tom, Jr., to a captaincy in England.

•

COL. ARTHUR FRUDENFELD, division manager of RKO Midwest Theatres, Cincinnati, is due in New York for a visit next Monday.

•

"PEP" PEPPIATT this week rounds out his first year as Washington exchange manager for 20th Century-Fox.

•

HERB ELLISBURG, operating the Studio Theatre, Chicago, left that city yesterday for Miami.

•

ABE BERNSTEIN, Columbia representative working out of Boston, is in Hartford this week.

•

BERNARD SEAMON of the Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore, is on a two week vacation in New England.

•

SEYMOUR NEBENZAHL, independent producer for United Artists, is in New York from Hollywood.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, will leave New York today for Montreal to attend the Empire-Universal Films convention, Wednesday and Thursday.

•

MRS. A. PLOUGH, wife of the Warner Theatres' Philadelphia district manager, is recuperating at University Hospital in that city, following a major operation.

•

GEORGE LANDERS, Hartford district manager of E. M. Loew Theatres, and MRS. LANDERS have left for a two-week vacation at Cape Elizabeth, Me.

•

MILTON SILVER of Universal's home office advertising department, underwent an operation at Murray Hill Hospital on Sunday.

•

W. P. COVERT of Toronto has held the post of vice-president of the IATSE for 26 years, the oldest officer in point of service in the "IA."

•

FRED GREENWAY, manager of Loew's Palace Theatre, Hartford, has left for a two-week vacation in Chicago where he will join MRS. GREENWAY.

•

SAMUEL VARBALOW, Camden, N. J., independent circuit operator, will observe his 25th year in the industry next month.

•

AL SMITH, former theatre manager in and around Souderton, Pa., has received his Army discharge after seven months' service.

•

JAMES MCCARTHY, manager of Warners' Strand Theatre, Hartford, is vacationing in New York.

•

RUTH LIEBER, United Artists booker in Philadelphia, and FRED RHENS will be married next week.

First 20th Chiefs Return from Coast

Returning yesterday from Hollywood were 20th Century-Fox officials Tom Connors, vice-president in charge charge of sales; William J. Kupper, general sales manager; Francis L. Harley, managing director of Great Britain; L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager, A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, W. C. Gehring, Western sales manager.

The executives held conferences with Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of production, and Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production.

Spyros P. Skouras, president; Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and Sam Shain, assistant to Skouras, are expected back by the week's end.

Williams to Springfield

Phil Williams, director of advertising and publicity for the March of Time, will leave today for Springfield, Mass., to stage a special opening of MOT's "Americans All."

Bishop and Stoner To Visit M-G-M

Burtus Bishop, Jr., Southern district manager, and Bryan D. Stoner, manager of the company's Pittsburgh branch, have been added to M-G-M field sales executives set to visit the home office for a week. They are due here on Aug. 14.

Arriving yesterday were Maurice Saffle, manager of Seattle, and L. C. Wingham, San Francisco. Next Monday, Leroy Bickel, Dallas branch manager, and Jack Reville, Oklahoma City exchange chief, will arrive, followed a week later by W. E. (Doc) Banford, Chicago, and Bob Workman, Minneapolis. On Aug. 7, Herman Ripps, Albany, and Ralph Maw, Buffalo, are due.

'10 Little Indians' Bought

HOLLYWOOD, July 17.—Samuel Bronston bought the screen rights from Lee Shubert to "Ten Little Indians," for $150,000.

Hunt Readies Tele.

WILDWOOD, N. J., July 17.—William C. Hunt, circuit owner, in reopening his Blaker's Theatre, entirely renovated as a result of a fire last year, disclosed that the theatre, one of the first in the country, has made definite provisions for post-war television. In addition to the projection booth, special booths for television were also included in the reconstruction. The theatre is also believed to be the first in the country entirely staffed by women.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT in "Once Upon a Time"
with JANET BLAIR
Dir. by Alexander Hall—A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
HELD OVER 3rd WEEK!
See Stilwell in the War's Most Incredible Venture
BACK DOOR TO TOKYO
THE LATEST MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'The WHITE CLIFFS of DOVER' IRENE DUNNE ALAN MARSHAL VAN JOHNSON & SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS
IN PERSON Dave APOLLON Romo VINCENT
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION Lois ANDREWS

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

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"to inspire...to thrill...to give heart..."

"THE LIBERATION OF ROME" available free to all theatres is an exciting two-reel pictorial record of a march that made history. Brave cameramen of the U. S. Army Pictorial Service made it in collaboration with British Service Film units. They have captured the heart-beat of heroes lifting an enslaved people into the sunlight of freedom. Play it and win the thanks of your patrons! Film Daily expressing the enthusiasm of the trade press says: "of enormous interest, thrilling to witness, a MUST for all theatres."

"THE LIBERATION OF ROME" IS FREE! BOOK IT NOW!

Distributed thru M-G-M Exchanges. Accessories from National Screen Service.
Sponsored by War Activities Committee—Motion Picture Industry

WORLD PREMIERE · CAPITOL TH



Claudette COLBERT

"Since Yo

His first picture sinc

Directed by







Jennifer JONES | Joseph COTTEN | Shirley TEMPL

RE · NEW YORK CITY · JULY 20th

ID O. SELZNICK

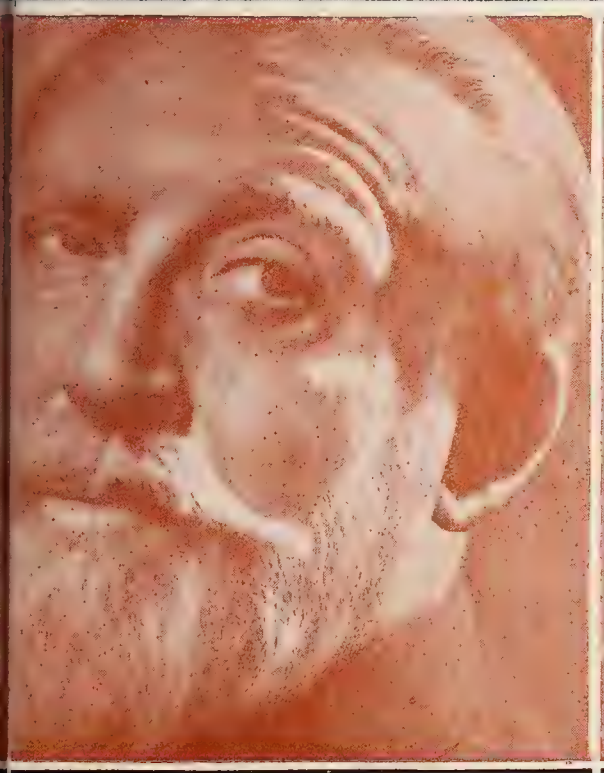
presents

u Went Away"

ONE WITH THE WIND" and "REBECCA"

romwell · Released thru United Artists

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING!
KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!



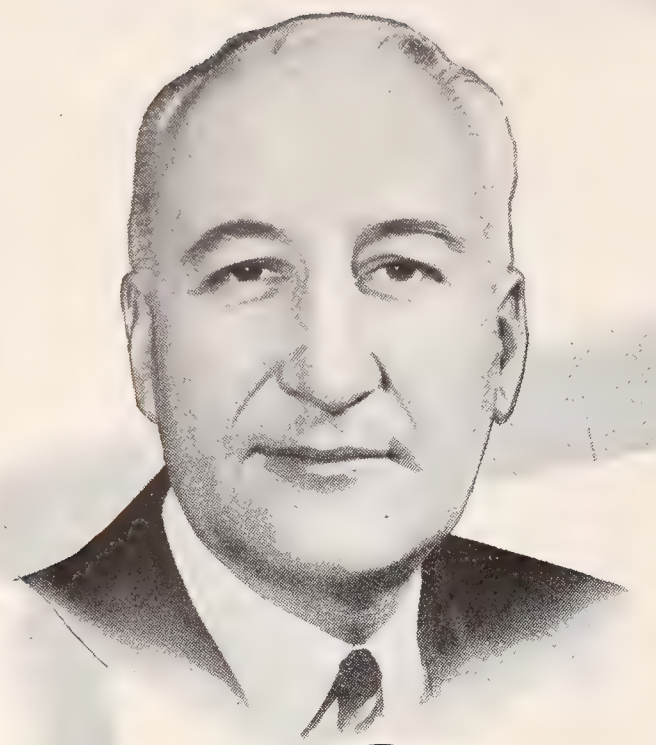
Monty WOOLLEY



Lionel BARRYMORE



Robert WALKER





FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE

OFFICE OF STATE CHAIRMAN

1270 Sixth Avenue,
New York 20, New York,
July 7, 1944.

Mr. Charles C. Moskowitz, General Chairman,
New York Area - Fifth War Loan Drive,
Motion Picture War Activities Committee,
1540 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Moskowitz:

Through the efforts of your Committee, I understand the unprecedented figure of about 20 percent of the "E" Bond sales in this area has been made through the motion picture theatres.

Your Committee has given our New York campaign the spark it needed and I want you to know that you have had an important part in the success of the Fifth War Loan.

The War Finance Committee is deeply appreciative of the time and effort that you put into the drive so vigorously. It is gratifying to know that your Committee, with its hundreds of cooperating theatres in the New York area and its thousands of ardent bond workers, is continuing its powerful, high-speed efforts in the Fifth War Loan right through to midnight July 31st.

Please extend our thanks to all of your hard-working associates and especially to those eager theatre staffs who serve the bond buying public so faithfully.

Cordially yours,

Nevil Ford

Nevil Ford,
State Chairman.

THEY '*REGISTERED*' IN THE FIFTH!



A JOB WELL DONE!

THANKS . . . to the great throngs who attended the "bond shows" presented several times daily on the stage of the Giant Bond Register in Times Square and who bought a bond a minute.

THANKS . . . to the scores of artists listed below who willingly and eagerly volunteered their services at these bond-selling performances . . . and to their managers, press agents and representatives with whose help and cooperation this unusual job has been done so well.

THANKS . . . to the Actors' Equity Association, the American Guild of Variety Artists, the American Federation of Radio Artists, the Screen Actors Guild, the American Guild of Musical Artists, the American Federation of Musicians, the United Theatrical War Activities Committee, the Hollywood Victory Committee and the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, under whose auspices the Cash Register was conceived and erected.

To General Chairman C. C. Moscowitz and his staff, a deep bow for the efficient manner in which they arranged the many details in connection with the presentations of the shows.

U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT
War Finance Committee of N.Y.
Entertainment Industry Division—James Sauter, *Chairman*

ANNABELLA
PAUL ASH & ROXY ORCHESTRA
TREVOR BACON
IRINA BARANOVA
RED BARBER
PAT BARNES
GRACIE BARRIE
LOUISE BEAVERS
DANNY BECKNER & ORCHESTRA
ELIZABETH BERGNER
BERRY BROS.
JEANNE CAGNEY
LOUIS CALHERN
CAB CALLOWAY & ORCHESTRA
IMOGENE CARPENTER
RALPH COOPER
CARLO CORELLI
DON COSSACKS CHORUS
SERGIO DEL KARLO
VIVIAN DELLA CHIESA
JEAN DICKENSON
DUDLEY DIGGES
RALPH DUMKE
EMPIRE STATE QUARTETTE
WILBUR EVANS
JOSE FERRER
BENNY FIELDS
EDDIE GARR
PATRICIA GILMORE
GEORGE GIVOT
JACKIE GLEASON
BEN GRAUER
UTA HAGEN
BOB HALL
ADELAIDE HAWLEY
HARRY HIRSHFIELD
JOY HODGES
WILLIAM HORNE
WILLIE HOWARD
DEAN HUDSON & ORCHESTRA
DEAN JAGGER
HARRY JAMES & ORCHESTRA
BOB JOHNSTONE
VICTOR JORY
SAMMY KAYE & ORCHESTRA
LEW KESSLER
DENNIS KING
JESSIE ROYCE LANDIS
BOBBY LANE & CLAIRE
CANADA LEE
HOWARD LINDSAY
PETER LORRE
BERT LYTELL
ENRIC MADRIGUERA & ORCHESTRA
LUBA MALINA
RUTH MATTESON
UNA MERKEL
KATHERINE MESKILL
LUCKY MILLINDER
LUCY MONROE
MAGDA MONTEZ
CONRAD NAGLE
GERTRUDE NIESSEN
NANCY NORMAN
BRIAN O'MARA
BIBI OSTERWALD
JAN PEERCE
LOUIS PRIMA & ORCHESTRA
RADIO ACES
MURIEL RAHN
PHIL REGAN
BILL ROBINSON
BENNY RUBIN
HAZEL SCOTT
CORNELIA OTIS SKINNER
SUNNY SKYLAR
TABS SMITH & ORCHESTRA
CHARLIE SPIVAK & ORCHESTRA
DOROTHY STICKNEY
SALLY STUART
JEAN TENNYSON
TIP, TAP & TOE
ERNEST TRUEX
VAL VALENTINOFF
WARREN BROS.
WESSON BROS.
BILLY WILLIAMS
ANNA MAY WONG
BARRY WOOD
ILENE WOODS
ARTHUR WRIGHT
ROLAND YOUNG
RUBY ZWERLING & ORCHESTRA

and to

CAPITOL THEATRE
Jesse Kaye—Allen Zee
LOEW'S STATE
Ed Douglas
PARAMOUNT THEATRE
Bob Weitman — Bob Shapiro
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Gus Eysell — Leon Leonidoff
ROXY THEATRE
Irving Lesser — Sam Rausch
STRAND THEATRE
Irving Windisch

★

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY
COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM
THE BLUE NETWORK
MUTUAL BROADCASTING SYSTEM

Chi. Long Runs Are Growing Longer

(Continued from page 1)

which starts its 13th week Wednesday. Only two pictures in the past 13 years stayed four weeks at the Chicago ("She Done Him Wrong" and "Road to Morocco"), and that was considered miraculous for the Loop. Today, Nate Platt, head of B & K's downtown theaters, says "It is a cinch now for a good picture to get a four week run, and "Going My Way" looks strong enough to hold up all Summer." Originally, "Up in Arms" was in for four weeks, but business has been a high and even keel for three months. Eddie Silverman, executive of the Essaness Theaters, operating the Woods, has been predicting a full Summer run for the picture.

The Chicago policy is fast becoming similar to that of the Paramount in New York. Pictures come in for indefinite engagements, supported with stage shows.

Some 90 per cent of the pictures now playing the State Lake and United Artists stay a minimum of four weeks. Some 30 per cent remain four to seven weeks. The extended run situation is comparatively true at the Palace, Garrick, Roosevelt and Apollo (now temporarily closed due to fire).

Because more and more independent neighborhood exhibitors have been turning to old pictures to fill the many vacant spots on their programs, the shortage of prints is becoming acute. Few old prints are lying idle in exchanges these days. In a few cases, exhibitors, particularly those with theaters in defense plant neighborhoods, have been solving the picture shortage problem by following the extended run policy themselves.

Talent a Problem of USO-Camp Shows

Only 103 acts were found acceptable, far short of the 1,000 performers needed by USO-Camp Shows to fill demands of the War Department for additional units to play domestic army camps and overseas fronts, in the USO-Camp Shows' Coast-to-Coast talent search, just completed in 27 cities, according to a report compiled by Oscar A. Doob, who helped organize the quest which saw 2,122 acts responding and auditioned.

USO-Camp Shows will continue its efforts to line up more performers.

Special Citations for Bond Theatres

The report, to be made on business reply cards sent out by the committee, will record each theatre's bond sales from June 1 through July 27. All sales during this period will be credited to the Fifth War Loan. The reports are to be mailed to R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" Committee at War Activities Committee headquarters in New York.

O'Bryon at Mutual

Jim O'Bryon, newspaperman and public relations executive, has been appointed director of public relations and publicity for Mutual Broadcasting, succeeding Lester Gottlieb, who resigned to take over directorship of radio publicity for Young and Rubicam.

W. E. Green Pledges Jobs to Veterans

In a message to company men and women in service, Walter E. Green, president of National Theatre Supply, pledged that every National veteran would find a "job waiting" when he was honorably discharged.

Green said, "We are going to see to it that every National employee honorably discharged from military service desiring reemployment by the company and making prompt application therefor, will be offered a job suited to his or her talents. It is the company's objective to provide a job for every veteran and to assist every National veteran to qualify for a job."

Pine-Thomas Sign New Para. Pact

(Continued from page 1)

"Dangerous Passage," now being prepared by Dan Mainwaring as a Robert Lowery starrer, with William Berke directing, to be followed by "Homesick Angel," starring Johnny Weissmuller, which will be written by Maxwell Shane and directed by Lew Landers. Next scheduled is "People Are Funny," based on the NBC air show of that name, with Jack Haley in the lead, then "Crime On My Hands," from an original Ben Perry story purchased for William Gargan's debut under the Pine-Thomas aegis. Set up as "extras," to be produced as "A" pictures, are "People Are Funny" and "Storm," written by George Stewart. Pine-Thomas' last picture, "Double Exposure," starring Chester Morris and Nancy Kelly, which wound up their 1943-44 schedule, is now in the cutting rooms.

Gargan has been signed to star in three pictures during the next year for Pine-Thomas. Gargan formerly was under contract to M-G-M.

May Drop 'Locally Needed' Efforts

(Continued from page 1)

needed," WAC officials have been unable to obtain the same status in other areas because of changes in WMC procedure when chairman Paul V. McNutt ordered all labor turnovers to clear through the U. S. Employment Service after July 1.

A conference with McNutt was held on June 27 by Depinet, Leon J. Bamberger, H. M. Richey, A. A. Schubart and Claude Collins, at which time they emphasized the need for keeping the exchanges running smoothly because of the role of films in the war effort and also pointed out that exchange fire hazards make skilled labor mandatory. Although WMC chief McNutt is said to have listened sympathetically to the appeal, no further word has been received from Washington.

The agenda for tomorrow's distributor division session also includes informal discussion of plans for the Sixth War Loan Drive, Nov. 11-Dec. 7, dates of which were revealed yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Loew Pension Vote Today

(Continued from page 1)

Henry Rogers Winthrop.

The pension plan, facilitated by an arrangement whereby Loew executives who have profit-sharing contracts have agreed to limit their own annual compensation, would cost Loew's approximately $3,500,000 for the first year, beginning March, 1944, and about $3,000,000 for each succeeding year. It would be underwritten by a company to be selected later by the trustees and a special committee, with Equitable Life Assurance Co. the low bidder so far.

According to the plan, employes, after retiring (men at 65 and women at 60) would receive 15 per cent of their average annual earnings, plus 10 per cent of the portion over $3,000. Earnings above $200,000 a year would not be used in computing the annual average, and the normal retirement income would have a top of $49,700 per annum. The retirement income would be payable for life, with a minimum of 10 years payments guaranteed to each employe or his beneficiaries. Provisions have been made for death and disability benefits and for termination of employment. Special benefits have been provided for stars, officers and certain other Loew individuals. The plan has been approved by the U. S. Treasury Department.

Special Army Show to Climax Drive Here

"Stars and Stripes of 1944," a show put on by 100 soldiers from the Special Service's Army branch at Fort Hamilton, has been booked into Loew's Kings Theatre for July 28 as a climactic feature of the extended Fifth War Loan drive in this area, Charles C. Moskowitz, Metropolitan New York campaign chairman, announced yesterday. Free tickets are being distributed now to bond buyers at the Kings and other Flatbush theatres.

With several other houses in the city holding bond premieres during the next two weeks, Moskowitz expects this additional activity will put New York over its quota by the end of the month.

Steffes Aids Charity

MINNEAPOLIS, July 17.—Theatremen of the Northwest have pledged financial backing for the Elizabeth Kenny Institute here, where Sister Elizabeth Kenny, Australian nurse, trains technicians in her treatment of poliomyelitis. W. A. Steffes, president of Northwest Variety Club, announced that this organization, which last year presented Sister Kenny with its "Humanitarian Award," would conduct a citywide campaign to raise necessary funds for extension of the Kenny method.

Warners Considering Brazil 'Showcases'

(Continued from page 1)

after six weeks in this country, during which he conferred with Robert Schless and Joseph Hummel of the foreign department, and studio production executives, including Jack L. Warner.

Modest Grosses for Broadway Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

to bring about $79,000. The combination, scheduled to hold for three or four weeks, will be followed by Paramount's "Hail the Conquering Hero." "Take It or Leave It," and a stage show featuring Duke Ellington and his band, with Ella Logan and Jerry Lester, are expected to give the Roxy about $73,000 for its first week on the basis of $60,000 taken in on the first five days ending Sunday night; the combination will continue until "Wilson" takes over on August 1.

"Once Upon a Time" will wind up a protable three-week run at at Radio City Music Hall tomorrow with about $100,000 for the third week. The first four days of the third week, ending Sunday night, brought in $63,000. The Music Hall reports the largest advance sale of seats yet recorded at the theatre for M-G-M's "Dragon Seed," which will open on Thursday.

The fifth and final week of "Two Girls and a Sailor" and a stage show headlining Sammy Kaye's orchestra, is giving the Capitol an excellent $65,000, to surpass the fourth week. The well-heralded opening of David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" will take place at the Capitol Thursday. First week at the Strand for "The Adventures of Mark Twain," with Vincent Lopez and his orchestra on the stage, is expected to bring a profitable $40,000 on the basis of weekend business of $20,000.

'Holiday's' Appeal

"Christmas Holiday" is continuing to attract customers to the Criterion and $29,000 is expected on the third week; it will hold for a fourth week and possibly longer before making way for Columbia's "Mr. Winkle Goes to War." "The Story of Dr. Wassell" is holding up well at the Rivoli with $30,000 expected on the sixth week, and it will continue. No date has yet been set for the opening of "Frenchman's Creek" at that house. Both "Mr. Skeffington" at the Hollywood and "Bathing Beauty" at the Astor are continuing to do steady, modest business. "Mr. Skeffington" is expected to bring about $20,000 on its eighth week at the Hollywood, which is higher than the seventh week. "Bathing Beauty" is headed for $18,000 on its third week at the Astor.

"Marine Raiders" is expected to give the Palace an average $15,000 on a third and final week on the basis of $9,400 taken in over the weekend, Friday to Sunday. "Step Lively" will open at the Palace Friday. PRC's "Minstrel Man" is doing well at the Victoria, with $11,000 expected on the first week on the basis of a two-day weekend business of $4,700. A quiet $10,500 is expected for "The Hairy Ape" on a third wek at the Globe and it will continue for a fourth. M-G-M's "The Canterville Ghost" is set for the Globe on July 29. The first week of "Jungle Woman" at the Rialto is expected to bring in an average of $8,500 and the management is undecided as to whether to hold it over or bring in "Shadows in the Night" on Friday. The second week for the reissue, "Dead End," at the Gotham will bring about $8,500 on the basis of $3,300 taken in Friday to Sunday. "Fantasia" will continue at the Manhattan.

MR. SHOWMAN—
Shake Hands with a Hit!

Benny FIELDS · Gladys GEORGE

Minstrel Man

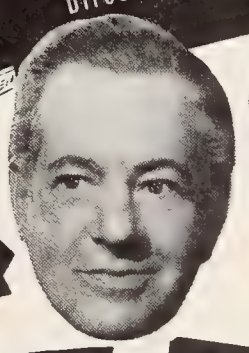
with

ALAN DINEHART · ROSCOE KARNS

Judy Clark · Jerome Cowan · Molly Lamont · John Raitt · Lee ('lasses) White

Original Story by MARTIN MOONEY and RAYMOND L. SCHROCK
Screenplay by IRWIN FRANKLYN and PIERRE GENDRON
Musical Score FERDE GROFÉ · Musical Director, LEO ERDODY
Produced by LEON FROMKESS
Associate Producer, HARRY REVEL
Directed by JOSEPH H. LEWIS







Songs

"CINDY"
"REMEMBER ME TO CAROLINA"
"I DON'T CARE IF THE WORLD KNOWS ABOUT IT"
"SHAKE HANDS WITH THE SUN"
"MY BAMBOO CANE"
"MELANCHOLY BABY (OLDIE)"



READ THESE RAVE REVIEWS

"HERE IS A MUSICAL WHICH MAJOR STUDIOS WOULD BE HAPPY TO ACKNOWLEDGE AS THEIR OWN. FIELDS IS AN ATTRACTION. PRC HAS A WINNING NUMBER." *Motion Picture Daily*

"PACKS LOADS OF ENTERTAINMENT. BENNY FIELDS REALLY SELLS HIS SONGS." *Film Daily*

"NOTHING IN CONTEMPORARY DISTRIBUTION COMPETES WITH IT AS TO KIND. DON'T SELL 'MINSTREL MAN' SHORT." *Motion Picture Herald*

"PRC HAS SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF IN 'MINSTREL MAN.' IT'S A GRADE A BOXOFFICE HIT!" *Hollywood Reporter*

"AN ODDS-ON WINNER THAT SHOULD PAY OFF HANDSOMELY FOR ANY THEATRE MAN WHO BOOKS IT. IT SHOULD BE AN OUTSTANDING HIT." *Box Office*

"EXHIBITORS NEED NOT HESITATE TO GET BEHIND BENNY FIELDS . . . SURE-FIRE ENTERTAINMENT." *Film Bulletin*

"TOP QUALITY MUSICAL . . . GIVEN ANY KIND OF SUPPORT IT SHOULD PAY HANDSOME DIVIDENDS." *Showmen's Trade Review*

"MAJOR STUDIOS MIGHT WELL HOP OVER TO PRC AND CATCH 'MINSTREL MAN' FOR A LESSON IN PRODUCTION OF A FINE MUSICAL WITH A GOOD HUMAN STORY." *Variety*

PRE RELEASE ENGAGEMENTS

VICTORIA THEATRE, N. Y. C. opening July 15
Warners BRANFORD, Newark opening July 26
Warners STANLEY, Jersey City opening July 27
RKO CHICAGO opening July 17
Warners MEMPHIS opening July 21
DOWNTOWN DETROIT (Pre Release) (Topped All Grosses)

PRC

Accent on ENTERTAINMENT

Coast Filming Rises to 52; 13 Start Work

HOLLYWOOD, July 17. — The total number of pictures in work rose to 52 last week, as 13 features were launched and six completed. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Sergeant Mike," "Stalk the Hunter."

Started: "Eve Knew Her Apples," with Ann Miller, William Wright, Ray Walker and Robert Williams; "Tomorrow You Die," with Jim Bannon, Janis Carter, Jean Stevens and George Macready, and an untitled feature starring Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer and Charles Coburn.

Shooting: "Tonight and Every Night," "The Unwritten Code."

M-G-M

Finished: "The Thin Man Goes Home."

Shooting: "The Home Front," "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Monogram

Started: "Law of the Valley," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton and Lynne Carver.

Shooting: "Little Devils."

PRC

Started: "At the Post," with Stuart Erwin, Bobby Henry, Marian Martin, Gwen Kenyon.

Shooting: "When the Lights Go on Again."

Paramount

Finished: "Her Heart in Her Throat," "Murder, He Says."

Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World," "A Medal for Benny," "Here Come the Waves," "Two Years Before the Mast."

RKO Radio

Started: "Experiment Perilous," with Hedy Lamarr, Paul Lukas and George Brent; "Betrayal from the East," with Lee Tracy and Nancy Kelly; "The Falcon in Hollywood," with Tom Conway, Veda Ann Borg, Emory Parnell, Frank Jenks and Barbara Hale; "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn) with Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo and Vera Allen.

Shooting: "Nevada," "The Brighton Strangler."

Republic

Finished: "My Buddy."

Started: "Lights of Old Santa Fe," with Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, George "Gabby" Hayes, "Sons of the Pioneers," Claire du Brey.

Shooting: "Brazil," "Flame of Barbary Coast," "Vigilantes of Dodge City."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Winged Victory."



FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

371 Feature Commitments From 9 of 11 Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

indicated in Hollywood last week following conferences there between Jack L. Warner, executive producer; Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, and Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity. That company released 48 features in 1941-42.

Paramount will produce between 25 and 30 next season, a slight drop from the present year's 32 and a decline of at least 11 from the 41 delivered in the Pearl-Harbor year.

Republic was the first company to make an official commitment, H. J. Yates, chairman of the board, disclosing at a studio sales conference on April 26 that there would be 68 features and Westerns for 1944-45, compared with 66 this year and 54 in 1941-42.

Columbia announced at the close of its three-day sales convention in Chicago June 4 a forthcoming year's program of 44 features, four action musicals and 10 Westerns, a total of 58, compared with 52 this year and 63 in 1941-42.

Universal, which released 64 in the season before last and is slated to complete 57 this season, will release 55 in 1944-45, William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, told a meeting of home office and sales executives here on June 11.

The Monogram schedule for next year represents the greatest jump so far reported, 47 as again the present year's 40, the company's franchise holders learned from W. Ray Johnston, president, at their convention in Los Angeles June 14. Monogram released 54 in 1941-42.

United Artists, which does not make commitments on an annual basis, has approved a program of 63 features running into 1945-46. This includes 15 voted Tuesday at a board of directors' meeting and 48 announced Monday by Gradwell L. Sears, distribution vice-president, at the company's sales meeting here. The latter figure included five awaiting release, four in production and 11 in the final script and casting stages. UA, which delivered 28 in 1941-42, is regarded as certain to have a minimum of 25 for this season and at least the same number for next.

RKO, which had 39 the year of Pearl Harbor and 44 during the current season, may have 36 in 1944-45, with official announcement expected at the meeting here July 24-26. Advance reports on 20th-Fox call for 20 features during the new season; there were 33 this year and 54 in 1941-42. The 20th-Fox meeting is expected to be held early in August; final arrangements await the return from the Coast of Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales.

PRC, according to an announcement by Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, at the company's annual sales convention here June 29, will duplicate the current season's program of 40 during the next year, broken down into 24 features and 16 Westerns, and the schedule is being kept open to permit additions. The Pearl Harbor year total of PRC was 48.

Variety Outing Resumed

WASHINGTON, July 17.—After a lapse of two years, the local Variety Club will revive its annual golf tournament, scheduling the event for Aug. 18 at the Woodmont Country Club. Co-chairmen are Sam Galanty and Harry Brown, aided by Sam Wheeler, George Crouch, Herbert Sauber, Harry Bachman, Mrs. Louis Janof, Mrs. Fred Rohrs, W. Stokes Sammons, William Henderson and Arthur Jacobson.

United Artists

Started: "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard) with Ingrid Bergman, Gregory Peck, Rhonda Fleming and Michael Chekov.

Shooting: "Dark Waters" (Bogeaus); "Tomorrow the World" (Cowan); "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan); "The Great John L" (Crosby); "Three's a Family" (Lesser).

Universal

Started: "Night Life," with Vivian Austin, Billy Dunn, Judy Clark, Minna Gombell, Maxie Rosenbloom; "Beyond the Pecos," with Rod Cameron, Eddie Dew, Fuzzy Knight and Jennifer Holt.

Shooting: "Stars Over Manhattan," "Can't Help Singing," "Queen of the Nile," "In Society."

Warners

Shooting: "The Corn Is Green," "Christmas in Connecticut," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

Schuyler Complaint Dismissed Stands

The American Arbitration Association appeal board has upheld the decision of the New York tribunal in dismissing the clearance complaint of Schuyler Theatre, Inc., operator of the Schuyler Theatre, New York, against Loew's, 20th-Fox, and RKO. Zatosh Amusement Co., operator of the Arden Theatre, was intervenor.

Complainant demanded that the seven-day clearance of the Arden over the Schuyler be abolished or reduced, alleging that the two houses are in different competitive areas, that the Schuyler is endeavoring to cater to an "arty" clientele, and that the Arden is patronized predominantly by Negroes.

In dismissing the complaint, the arbitrator held that the theatres are in the same competitive zone, that the equality of prices indicates the Schuyler's patrons "are being offered no special advantages measurable in terms of money," and that the Arden is not a Negro house, being situated in a mixed English, Spanish and Portugese neighborhood.

The appeal board, in upholding the decision, commended both complainant and intervenor for introducing audience-research surveys to support their contentions, calling them "a line of proof more obective than the mere partisan opinions of the contestants themselves." It was the first case in which conflicting surveys had been brought before the board.

No Governm't Decree Action For 2 Weeks

(*Continued from page* 1)

Special Assistant to the Attorney-General Robert L. Wright, in charge of the film unit, to get together for an extended discussion of the distributors' proposals and the recommendations prepared by Clark and Wright.

Clark, who has been on the road frequently in connection with matters coming under the criminal division, of which he is chief, is out of the city and is not expected to return before the end of the week. He was reported to be in Chicago on matters not connected with the decree.

While it has been reported that Clark has prepared his recommendations for submission to the Attorney-General, Department officials have refused to discuss their tenor, although there is an impression in some circles outside the Department that he is prepared to recommend that the Government accept a decree on a relatively short-term basis, which will permit reopening of the decree after the end of the war, when the situation can be worked out under more normal conditions and in the light of more clearly defined post-war conditions.

Independent Exhibitors Attitude

Although independent exhibitors still are not expected to put up any determined opposition to the adoption of a short-term decree, the combined meeting of independent organizations in Chicago last February went on record unanimously as favoring a court trial of the pending New York case, whom which the decree stems. To do this, in the light of changes which have occurred since the suit was suspended in Nov., 1940, the Department would have to file an amended complaint, and it has been learned that many exhibitors now take the position that such an amendment should attack the validity of the exhibition contract.

It is explained that recent decisions of the Supreme Court on matters involved in contracts make the pricing provisions of a standard film contract look doubtful.

If a short term consent decree is accepted, however, many exhibitors believe they would be in a better position to enforce their demands after the war than they are now. In this connection they are looking toward Congress, where legislation not directly connected with the war currently has little chance of consideration; after the war, this ban will be lifted, paving the way, according to observers here, for a full investigation of the motion picture industry, more comprehensive even than the numerous and lengthy block-booking probes which were an almost annual event, in pre-war Congresses.

'Brown' Trade Show Set

"Casanova Brown," produced by International Pictures and to be released by RKO, will be trade shown Monday, July 31, with the exception of St. Louis, where it will be screened Aug. 1. The New York premiere will be held at Radio City Music Hall following completion of the run of M-G-M's "Dragon Seed."

War Surplus To Aid Films

(Continued from page 1)

surplus goods would probably not exceed $60,000,000,000. But from the point of view of business the problem is far smaller than this sum would indicate. Three-quarters of the surplus stock will be combat ordnance. The remainder is equivalent in dollar magnitude to only two months normal sales."

Excess factory capacity likewise will be no great problem, according to the committee, which reports that, of $33,000,000,000 invested in such facilities during the emergency, not more than $5,000,000,000 worth will be readily convertible into a net effective addition to the nation's peacetime plant, the remainder comprising military installations and surplus facilities in such lines as shipyards, aircraft, aluminum and magnesium. Thus, it is reasoned, the convertible plants, will represent only about two years normal expansion.

CED recommendations on the handling of the various general and film equipment surplus include: Availability to consumers on the widest possible scale, encouragement of private business under competitive conditions, coordination of the disposal under a central Government policy board, avoidance of both freezing stocks for long periods and dumping them at depression prices; no continuance of war production merely to provide employment but, rather, advance planning of civilian production to take its place as quickly as possible, and early decision by the military authorities as to which stand-by plants are to be retained against future emergencies.

The CED's committee is composed of 1,800 leaders of American business, headed by Paul Hoffman, president of Studebaker. M. B. Folsom, Eastman Kodak treasurer, is chairman of CED's field development committee.

Arkansas Honors Bostick

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 17.—Bob Bostick, manager of National Theatre Supply's office in Memphis, has been presented with the annual bronze plaque award of the Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas. The award, made by ITO president C. C. Mundo, was for "outstanding achievement in establishing goodwill and understanding with the independent exhibitor."

O'Connor to MacLaren

TORONTO, July 17.—Harry O'Connor, with Famous Players here for many years in publicity and advertising department, has resigned to join MacLaren's Advertising Agency in the radio division. O'Connor was formerly associated with Associated Screen News.

'Wac, Wave' Premiere

ATLANTIC CITY, July 17.—"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," produced by Edward Sherman of Biltmore Productions and released through Monogram, will have its premiere here at the Steel Pier at a date to be announced.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"AND THE ANGELS SING." OPENING AT N.Y.PARAMOUNT TOPS SENSATIONAL OPENING OF "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK" AT SAME HOUSE...AS THE LAMOUR - HUTTON - MAC MURRAY MUSICALAUGH SMASH FOLLOWS 10-WEEK RECORD-BLASTING RUN OF "GOING MY WAY" AT PARAMOUNT'S BROADWAY SHOWCASE...TO CONTINUE UNBROKEN LINE OF HIT AFTER HIT IN WHAT ALL OBSERVERS DECLARE IS GREATEST YEAR IN PARAMOUNT HISTORY.

Short Subject Reviews

"Americans All"

(March of Time)

March of Time treats the problem of racial and religious intolerance, which it depicts as rampant in this country, with startling similarity to what preceded the rise of Naziism and Fascism abroad. The subject is treated with intelligence and sincerity. Though the issue is approached in a kid-glove fashion, the case for tolerance and understanding among peoples is presented with enough strength and conviction to warrant serious attention.

Pointing up the efforts of civic, social and educational groups in combating blind prejudice, the film portrays the Springfield, Mass., plan as an effective operation and a fitting example for other cities. Other sequences show the progress made toward uniting the nation on a common front democracy against totalitarianism. Direction and commentary are excellent. Running time, 20 mins.

"The Liberation of Rome"

(M-G-M-WAC)

A comprehensive and thrilling subject of Rome's liberation. Excellent shots of the action at Anzio, Nettuno, the Volturno and Rapido Rivers and then Cassino make fine exploitation material. As explained in the film, the freeing of Rome was accomplished by means of Combined Operations, engineered by both U. S. and British military forces. The strategy used in eliminating primary objectives en route to Rome is adequately demonstrated through the use of maps and graphs. English and American photography represents one of the finest pictorial presentations of military operations to date. The U. S. Army Pictorial Service produced, in collaboration with British Service Film Units. M-G-M is releasing here through the Office of War Information for the War Activities Committee. Running time, 20 mins.

"They Fight Again"

(RKO-Pathe)

A subject little short of inspiring has been produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., for RKO. "The Fight Again," latest of the "This Is America" series, is excellent, depicting with a tremendous emotional tug the physical and mental rehabilitation of an American Army sergeant who has been wounded.

The sergeant is a pitiful object as he lies in Halloran General Hospital, apathetic and listless. Gradually the healing magic of modern medicine does its work, and he is on the mend. As he heals, there is a parallel improvement in his mental state, with a resurgence to his former cheery self. Rehabilitation is completed at an upstate sanitorium and finally the sergeant is again fit for active duty. He is the symbol of thousands of gallant men with broken bodies who have been rescued from the human scrap heap. - Quentin Reynolds' calm, sympathetic voice strikes the right note. Running time, 17 mins.

A MAN AND WOMAN IN LOVE!

A NATION IN TURMOIL!

87 ROUSING SONGS!

200 MIGHTY SETS!

A CAST OF 12,000!

THE MOTION PICTURE
IT TOOK 2½ YEARS
TO MAKE!

20th Century Fox
presents

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S

WILSON

in Technicolor

Directed by HENRY KING
Written by LAMAR TROTTI

The Triumph it took 50 years
of film entertainment to achieve!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 12 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Fifth Special Events Rise To 14,077

Total to Increase With Extension of Drive

Registered special events in theatres during the Fifth War Loan have reached the record total of 14,077, which compares with 6,585 reported during the Fourth War Loan, R. J. O'Donnell, industry "Fighting Fifth" chairman, disclosed here yesterday.

The Fifth War Loan figures include events registered with the distributors' division, of which Ned E. Depinet is national chairman, and are still incomplete. In addition, the totals are expected to be increased when the final figures are reported with the inclusion

(*Continued on page 6*)

Spain Pays Film Debts

The Spanish government has brought about the payment of all Spanish debts to American film companies, having released the second 50 per cent of the dollar balance, following release of the first half several months ago, Enrique Agular, Universal manager in Spain and Portugal, disclosed in an interview here yesterday.

As a result, plus a boom which finds business in this neutral country at an all-time high, American distributors plan increasing the number of films they will exhibit there

(*Continued on page 6*)

Final 'U' Regional Today; Canada Next

Universal's final U. S. regional sales meeting will be held today at the Hotel Astor, here, when the New York district will end a two-day session conducted by Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager, and D. A. Levy, district manager.

W. A. Scully and E. T. Gomersall will address the meeting today. Among those attending are William Murphy, Nat Goldberg, Phil Winnick, Harry

(*Continued on page 6*)

WPB Eases Paper Use For Tickets

Washington, July 18.—The War Production Board today slightly eased its restrictions on paper to be used for admission tickets, amending its orders to permit the use of any coated stock made from raw stock not over the previously fixed maximum basic weight (22½ by 28½) of 90 pounds.

Skouras, Kent To GB Board

LONDON, July 18.—Gaumont-British shareholders, at a special meeting here today, approved an amendment to their corporate articles whereby non-British shareholders may achieve voting powers, thus entitling Spyros Skouras and Larry Kent of 20th-Fox to become G-B directors and implementing other provisions of the recent agreement between Skouras and J. Arthur Rank. Announcement of Skouras' and Kent's joining the board is imminent.

At the same time, Rank stated that "agreement in principle" had been reached with British revenue authorities concerning the intricate questions of G-B liabilities and the excess profits tax. Details, however, still await settlement. Presentation of G-B's annual report and accounts may be delayed for this reason, as well as because of an involved condition arising out of subsidiaries that were acquired prior to the time of Rank's control but never

(*Continued on page 6*)

Skeleton Meeting Of Warner Sales Staff This Year

HOLLYWOOD, July 18.—In deference to the wartime transportation stringency, Warner Bros. will not bring its corps of salesmen, bookers and other sales personnel together for the usual convention this year, but in its place will hold a skeleton meeting of executives here in mid-August, it is learned.

Only about half-a-dozen sales staff executives from the home office, together with district and branch managers and a few theatre department executives will attend, and it is understood that in practically every case it is up to the executive in question to arrange his transportation when and if feasible.

Over-all transportation requirements of the limited group meeting will not be large since many of the managers are located in the West, while others are required to visit the Coast periodically in the course of their regular business.

In pre-war years, Warners brought

(*Continued on page 6*)

1st U. A. District Meet Here Saturday

First in a series of district sales meetings for United Artists will be held here Friday and Saturday when district and branch managers and salesmen from New York and Boston

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Since You Went Away"

[*Selznick International-United Artists*]

DAVID O. SELZNICK bids again for production plaudits and gargantuan grosses in turning over to theatres his "Since You Went Away," the producer's newest entry following a four-year interlude.

The film is a day-to-day, month-to-month account of the lives of the wife and two daughters of a man gone to war. It is incident chained to and piled upon incident, much of it relevant and essential, some of it irrelevant but diverting or touching, as the case may be; but all of it is polished, professional and presentable.

To the exhibitor, its cast and its length are of more than usual interest. It offers Claudette Colbert in one of her top-ranking performances, as the wife of the man gone to war; Jennifer Jones, who follows her starring appearance in "The Song of Bernadette" with another distinctive performance herewith, as one of the daughters; Shirley Temple as the second daughter; Joseph Cotten, as a Naval officer and friend of the family; Monty Woolley, a wartime lodger in the home; Lionel Barrymore in a brief sequence as a minister; and Hattie McDaniel, Lloyd

(*Continued on page 4*)

Stockholders Approve Loew Pension Plan

Reelect All Members of Board of Directors

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

The stockholders of Loew's, Inc., by a vote of 1,044,125 to 90,658, approved the company's pension retirement plan at their annual meeting here yesterday.

The shareholders also reelected the present board of directors, members of which are: David Bernstein, Leopold Friedman, Eugene W. Leake, Charles C. Moskowitz, William A. Parker, J. Robert Rubin, Nicholas M. Schenck, Joseph R. Vogel,

(*Continued on page 4*)

LoewPromotes Wolff, Brenner

Max Wolff has been appointed general purchasing agent for Loew-M-G-M, succeeding the late Charles J. Sonin. Al Hoffman becomes assistant to Wolff and Leo Liebermann assumes the duties formerly handled by Hoffman.

At the same time, William G. Brenner, who has been handling sales personnel activities and supervising M-G-M's checking department, has been appointed to take charge of the company's exchange maintenance, succeeding the late J. S. McLeod. Bren-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Fleitman to PRC; Bonwick Resigns

George J. Bonwick, former PRC executive vice-president and treasurer, has resigned from the company. R. George Fleitman, who was in charge of exchange operations until eight months ago, when he left to engage in business for himself as a certified public accountant, has been appointed chief of home office operations, under Leo J. McCarthy, general

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, is expected here from the Coast on Friday.

•

GEORGE SCANLAN, general manager of the photo periodical division of E. I. du Pont de Nemours, is back at his desk in Washington after an illness of several months.

•

SAMUEL DERRINGER, head of the sound department of the Warner theatre circuit in Philadelphia, and MRS. DERRINGER are parents of a daughter.

•

WILLIAM PERLBERG, 20th Century-Fox producer, and MRS. PERLBERG arrived in New York from Hollywood yesterday.

•

WARREN CONNER, Cincinnati district manager for Altec Service Corp., has returned to his Cincinnati office after a New York visit.

•

ROY HAINES, Warners' Western and Southern division sales manager, has returned from a tour of company exchanges in the South.

•

JULES FIELDS, 20th Century-Fox assistant exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for Providence.

•

DAVID BUTLER, director, is in Chicago this week from Hollywood to see his horses race at Arlington Park.

•

LEON FROMKESS, president of PRC Pictures, will leave here for Hollywood on Thursday.

•

DAVID FRIEDMAN, Paramount booker at Buffalo, has returned to that city from a New York visit.

•

SALLY TUYN, booker for 20th-Fox, Buffalo, will be married to VINCENT MARTIN on Aug. 27.

•

IRA H. COHN, branch manager for 20th-Fox, Buffalo, and MRS. COHN are vacationing in Northern Canada.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service Corp., has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

Flight Officer JACKIE COOGAN is stationed temporarily at Stout Field awaiting reassignment.

•

T. P. MULROONEY, United Artists foreign sales supervisor, is on vacation in Pennsylvania.

•

HERBERT SILBERBERG, Hollywood film attorney, is a New York visitor.

Film Editors Join IATSE

HOLLYWOOD, July 18.—The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors at a meeting here last night voted to affiliate with the IATSE.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, July VR

PROBABLY at no other juncture in the industry's history have production inventories approached their present peak.

Paramount, alone, is in the neighborhood of $39,000,000. Warners recently noted $36,000,000 in its financial statement, or an increase of about $8,000,000 over the preceding fiscal period. Metro has been hammering away unceasingly for months, has 12 features completed and eight shooting. That's highly expensive going, the way they make 'em at Culver City.

Universal is well along on 1944-45 production, having set release dates for its first quarter. Twentieth Century-Fox has spotted in its initial ten for the new season, virtually all of them finished.

The details of the situation on backlogs, of course, vary with each studio. It's more with one, less with another. Tying it into a package, however, Hollywood today checks off its film inventories at about $150,000,000. This is the cautious estimate. The more enthusiastic estimate puts the overall figure much closer to $200,000,000.

■ ■

If it shakes any worlds, here is the best accredited lowdown on the Gary Cooper-Sam Wood breakup over "Jubal Troop":

"Coop" and Wood have been friends for years. Recurrent have been reports at more or less regular intervals that they planned to organize a joint producing company. When International signed the actor for "Casanova Brown," it was a one-picture arrangement, but no secret was the anticipation on the part of Bill Goetz and Leo Spitz that something permanent might develop later. It was considerably later, but it happened.

"Jubal Troop," one of Wood's under Columbia commitment, was not parcel to Cooper's own-unit deal with International. However, he agreed to make it for Wood under conditions usual with topnotch Hollywood personalities. This meant approval of script and remuneration. Apparently, the script was not delivered on the promised date. Moreover, Cooper is reputed not to have liked it after he read it. Thirdly was disagreement over do-re-mi.

■ ■

There could be much to the adage about once an actor always an actor.

Bidding for film rights to "Jacobowsky and the Colonel," current Theatre Guild success in which Jack Skirball has a thriving interest, turned spirited before Harry Cohn finally outstrode all others on behalf of Columbia.

It was 20th Century-Fox which furnished much of the spirit but stopped punching when the price went over $300,000. Nevertheless, it punched until then because Ernst Lubitsch, once an actor, wanted to return to acting.

Lubitsch happens to have been foiled, but not permanently. He is slated to play Lubitsch in "Where Do We Go from Here?" at his home studio. Gregory Ratoff will direct. Unique headline becomes:

RATOFF DIRECTS LUBITSCH

■ ■

The Wilson" barrage over New York is one of the heaviest in trade annals. Billboards have been unfurled for weeks. Within space restrictions imposed by newsprint shortages, the dailies are carrying a full load. There is also radio. Combined, the campaign heralding the Roxy inaugural August 1 will cost in the neighborhood of $250,000, it is estimated.

Thirteen days ahead of the premiere, which this is, finds the air lanes jammed with spot announcements, by day and by night. One upper strata 20th-Fox executive thereby is persuaded to observe, "It will be impossible for the New York public not to know about this event. We've made certain of it."

■ ■

Some circulation is being accorded a fantastic yarn which seems too tall even for easily-taken-in Hollywood to absorb. It has to do with a producer who is of some stature on a major lot. He is presumed to be disgruntled because he entered his bid for the la-la quarters once occupied by another producer no longer around the place.

Studio management rejected the producer's bid, and now the pout is on.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 18

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, will leave for New York by plane tomorrow after several weeks of conference with studio officials.

•

Actor Ward Bond was struck by an automobile in Los Angeles last night and suffered a severe fracture of the left leg.

•

Sidney Lanfield was signed by Paramount to direct six pictures in the next three years. "Duffy's Tavern" will be his first assignment.

•

D. A. Doran returned from New York following conferences on story properties.

•

Universal extended Lew Collins' directorial contract one year.

•

RKO gave Phillip Terry a new contract calling for two pictures annually.

$50,000 'Wassell' Cut To Navy Relief

An initial contribution of $50,000 from grosses of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will be turned over today to the Navy Relief Society by Barney Balaban, Paramount president, at a luncheon at the 21 Club here.

Admiral James O. Richardson, NRS executive secretary, will receive the payment, first to be made for the Navy's cooperation in the film's production. Others attending the ceremony will be Adolph Zukor, Lieut. Commanders Edmund De Long and William C. Huggins, Russell Holman, Robert Gillham, Al Wilkie and Claude Lee.

Coast Premiere for Selznick's 'SYWA'

HOLLYWOOD, July 18.—Hollywood turned out last night for the premiere of David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away," at the Carthay Circle Theatre. Hundreds of screen personalities and a number of dignitaries in the Army and Navy comprised the invited audience of 1,500.

Claudette Colbert, Jennifer Jones, Shirley Temple, Robert Walker, Joseph Cotten, Monty Woolley and Lionel Barrymore, the seven stars of the production, attended last night's screening. The feature will not be released here for public consumption until late in the Summer.

Silvey in Charge of 'B's' for 20th-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, July 18.—20th Century-Fox will turn out 12 "minor-budget" films for its 1944-45 program, it was disclosed here today along with the announcement that Ben Silvey, unit production manager, has been elevated to a producership, in charge of the "B" program.

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WATCH IT GROW!



M-G-M's MIGHTY PRODUCTION
of Pearl Buck's Famed Novel

"DRAGON SEED"

KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON · ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF
TURHAN BEY

HURD HATFIELD · J. CARROL NAISH
AGNES MOORHEAD · HENRY TRAVERS
ROBERT BICE · ROBERT LEWIS
FRANCES RAFFERTY · JACQUELINE DeWIT

Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts & Jane Murfin • Based on the Novel by Pearl S. Buck
Directed by JACK CONWAY and HAROLD S. BUCQUET
Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Another Big M-G-M World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall follows record-breaking "The White Cliffs of Dover."

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924-1944 MGM

WAR BULLETIN! HAVE YOUR BOND SALES FIGURES READY FOR FIFTH WAR LOAN REPORT BLANK

Stockholders Approve Loew Pension Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

David Warfield and Henry Rogers Winthrop.

Company earnings, it was learned following the meeting, are continuing to run 10 per cent ahead of last year after provisions for all Federal taxation, indicating 40 cents a share increase for the third quarter of the current fiscal year over the similar period last year. The company had previously announced earnings of $7,442,698 for the 28 weeks ended March 16, 1944, or $4.44 a share as compared with earnings of $3.83 per share for the comparable period in 1943 after Federal taxes.

As previously reported, the pension plan, made possible at a minimum cost to the company under the present taxation situation and facilitated by an arrangement whereby Loew executives who have profit-sharing contracts have agreed to limit their own annual compensation to help defray the costs, will cost the company approximately $3,500,000 for the first year beginning March, 1944, and about $3,000,000 for each succeeding year. It will be underwritten by a company to be selected later by the trustees and a special committee. The Equitable Life Assurance Co. is the low bidder thus far.

Employes Retirement Plan

According to the plan, employes after retiring at the age of 65 (60 for women) will receive 15 per cent of their average annual earnings, plus 10 per cent of any portion over $3,000. Earnings above $200,000 a year will not to be used in computing the annual average and the normal retirement income will have a top of $49,700 per annum. The retirement income will be payable for life with a minimum of 10 years' payments guaranteed to each employe, or his beneficiaries. Provisions are made for death and disability benefits and for termination of employment. Special benefits are provided for stars, officers and certain other Loew individuals.

Little opposition manifested itself at the meeting to the plan. Presiding as temporary chairman, Leake pointed out that the maximum yearly benefits under the Loew plan reach 25 per cent of annual earnings where as in plans in operation for other companies the maximums reach as high as 75 per cent. He stressed the fact that the portion of salary being contributed to the plan by nine top executives of the company will be sufficient to cover the cost of the plan for every single star on the company's roster who gets $50,000 or more a year, based on 1943 earnings.

Less than 500 of the company's 4,300 employes who will be beneficiaries under the plan are employed by subsidiaries of the company, Leake indicated in response to questioning, and in all cases the subsidiaries are 50 per cent or more owned by Loew's, Inc. Owners of the subsidiaries with Loew's will be asked to contribute their share to the upkeep of the plan, company officials indicated.

Leake pointed out that in the 12 years he has been a director of Loew's, Inc., the company's Federal tax payments have increased from approximately $200,000 in 1931 to about $21,000,000 this past year.

Joseph Pulvermacher, president of the Sterling National Bank and Trust Co., one of the shareholders, proposed a resolution congratulating the company's directors and executive officers for their conduct of the company's affairs during the past year, which was unanimously adopted. A. H. Ardrey, vice-president of the Bankers' Trust Co., who pointed out that he has contact with many of the film industry's financing ventures, also paid tribute to the Loew's management and said the company was well-served by the adoption of the plan. He indicated that his bank was anxious to serve as a trustee in the administration of the plan. Benjamin A. Javitz, representing the Investors' Fair-Play League, invited management representatives and stockholders to a clinic on salaries and bonuses which the organization plans to conduct in October.

Both the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Treasury Department's Bureau of Internal Revenue have indicated that the Loew pension plan conform with regulations covering such plans. It is expected that final approval will be sought once final details of the plan have been set.

"Since You Went Away"

(*Continued from page* 1)

Corrigan, Agnes Moorehead, Robert Walker, Albert Basserman, Doodles Weaver, Nazimova, Warren Hymer and others too numerous to mention here. The picture runs two hours and 51 minutes. Many doubtless will say that it could be equally as fine and effective, or even more so, in shorter length. Yet it appears fairly certain that sequences which one would feel could be dispensed with, would be the very sequences which another will find among the most enjoyable or significant in the picture. It has been done on a broad canvas. To eliminate would be to restrict that canvas and to reduce proportionately its general audience appeal. A sophisticated New York preview audience viewed it from beginning to end without show of restiveness.

THE story is composed of the varied happenings in the lives of the mother and two daughters, left to readjust themselves to a wartime existence and a revised family income after the head of the household has entered the service. Considerable emotional effect is achieved simply by portraying the loneliness and the deep concern for the welfare of the absent one of those left behind; their despair when the husband and father is reported missing in action; their joy, the note on which the picture ends, when they receive word on Christmas Eve that he is safe and well and homeward bound.

The broad appeal of the picture is in its presentation of experiences which so many millions throughout the world have known since war began or, if not known, are understood, because so few remain who have not been touched by them. The wartime romance, effectively portrayed by Miss Jones and Walker, with its tragic ending; wartime experiences and conversations in cocktail lounges, sweet shops, restaurants, railroad stations, aboard trains, in hotel lobby, home, bowling alley, church, hospital and military camp, are familiar or recognizable to all. It is not all set forth on the same plane of excellence; it has its hills and valleys. Yet it carries the audience with it wherever it goes, projecting the viewer into strong emotional sequences; homely, everyday happenings; broad or charming humor; the joys and tragedies of adolescence. It is difficult to imagine the audience or the member of one for which it does not hold something compelling or something charming. And to all those who have loved ones in the war, and those others whose loved ones have been lost in it, it offers a message of faith and courage.

THE lavish Selznick production hand is evident in every frame. John Cromwell's direction is a distinguished accomplishment with very few, and very minor exceptions. Performances are uniformly up to the standard of the ambitious production, not even forgetting Soda, the talented bulldog left behind by the master at war. The photography of Stanley Cortez and Lee Garmes is outstanding by any standard of comparison. Max Steiner's music is an important asset of the production. Selznick is credited with the screenplay.

Running time, 171 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

SHERWIN KANE.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Goldwyn Host to RKO

James Mulvey, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, and Goldwyn will be hosts at a baseball party at Ebbetts Field Sunday for delegates to RKO's 13th annual sales meeting to begin July 24 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. More than 300 delegates are expected to attend. Luncheon will be served at the clubhouse. RKO distributes Goldwyn pictures.

Reiner's Mother Dies

Funeral services will be held at Riverside Chapel here tomorrow for Mrs. Grace Reiner, mother of Manny Reiner, who died yesterday at Lancaster, Ohio. Reiner, formerly short subjects advertising-publicity director for Paramount, is now with the OWI overseas branch.

Wolff, Lieberman Brenner and Hoffman Promoted

(*Continued from page* 1)

ner will continue his other duties for the time being.

Wolff has been with the com pany for 26 years. His first Loew job was assistant to Charles C. Moskowitz in auditing construction expenditures. He then formed the purchasing department. Later he was assigned to construction and alteration of theatres and following the building of 15 new Loew theatres in the Metropolitan New York area, he took charge of maintenance of in-town theatres.

Wolff was once manager of the old Metro studios in the East. Then he managed Loew's scenic studios. After that he rejoined the purchasing department and became assistant to Sonin.

Hoffman has been with the company 16 years. He joined the M-G-M purchasing department after he was graduated from New York University. Lieberman is a graduate of City College of New York.

Joining M-G-M in Oct., 1936, Brenner's first job with the company was the development of the field checking department. Later he was brought into the home office under Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations.

His first post in the industry was with General Films in Philadelphia. He left to join Universal in New York. In 1918, he joined the Goldwyn accounting department under Alan Cummings. He was later with R-C Pictures, FBO and RKO, in charge of contracts. He then joined Warner Theatres' Newark zone office as buyer of advertising and publicity accessories. Later he was transferred to the accounting department. He remained in this post until 1936, when he moved over to M-G-M.

Alan Dinehart, 54, Dies on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, July 18. — Private services will be held here for Alan Dinehart, 54, screen and stage actor, who died at Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital Monday of a heart attack. Interment will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Rinehart had a lengthy career on the stage as actor, author and director before he entered motion pictures 14 years ago. He had appeared in nearly 100 films.

Among his stage roles were appearances in "Silent House," "Cheaper to Marry" and "The Meanest Man in the World," the last named being written by himself as well. He signed a Fox contract in May, 1931, and in 1932 appeared in "As the Devil Commands" for Columbia. From 1934 he appeared in many pictures for most of the major companies. He last appeared on Broadway in the play, "Separate Rooms."

Dinehart is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mozelle Brittone Dinehart, an actress, and two sons, Mason Alan Dinehart, 3rd, eight years old, and Frederick Alan Dinehart, Jr., now serving with the Army overseas.

M. P. DAILY
BOXOFFICE
FILM DAILY
M. P. HERALD
VARIETY
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
DAILY VARIETY
THE INDEPENDENT
SHOWMEN'S T. R.
THE EXHIBITOR

War Bulletin!
Have Your Bond Sales Figures Ready
for 5th War Loan Report Blanks

All HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO!

No. 1-Variety says: "Another on the style of 'Miracle of Morgan's Creek'—only better. As funny as its predecessor, only more logical, with more human interest... Will do excellent business from the word go . . . A box-office whiz."

Paramount's

HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO

More Miraculous Than "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek"!



starring

Eddie BRACKEN with **Ella Raines**

and **Wm. DEMAREST • Raymond Walburn • Franklin Pangborn**
Elizabeth Patterson • Bill Edwards
Written and Directed by PRESTON STURGES

Skouras, Kent To GB Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

properly absorbed. Rank's accountants have been striving for many months to unravel these tangled equities.

Meanwhile, Anthony Havelock-Allan, David Lean and Ronald Neame, makers of "In Which We Serve," and "Blithe Spirit," have left Two Cities and joined Independent Producers, Rank's favored production organization, taking with them the blessing of Noel Coward. Carol Reed is also a potential IP member. This is described here as a blow to Filippo Del Guidice, TC managing director, but is all a part of Rank's rationalization of his production sources preparatory to the start of joint production with 20th-Fox. Del Guidice left London today for a holiday in the Scottish Highlands.

1st U.A. District Meet Here Saturday

(*Continued from page* 1)

districts convene at the Warwick Hotel, Carl Leserman, U.A. general sales manager, announced here yesterday.

Sam Lefkowitz, New York district manager, and James Winn, Boston district manager, will preside at the meetings, which will be attended by staffs from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Boston, Buffalo and New Haven.

First session will get underway Friday morning with Leserman the principal speaker. Other home office executives who will attend are: Harry Gold, Edward Schnitzer, J. J. Unger, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Harry Buckley, Charles Steele, Phil Dow, Jack Wrege, S. W. McGrath, James Dunn and Louis Pollock.

Similar combined district meetings will be held for the western divisions as soon as accommodations can be arranged.

Final 'U' Regional Today; Canada Next

(*Continued from page* 1)

Furst, Sam Finkel and Leo Simon.

Scully, F. J. A. McCarthy and Maurice Bergman will leave here late today to attend Universal's Canadian sales meeting at the Mt. Royal Hotel, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Alf Perry, head of Empire-Universal, will conduct that meeting.

Skeleton WB Meet Held This Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

all its salesmen, bookers and a large contingent of home office personnel, as well as studio executives, to a mass convention at the Hotel Blackstone in Chicago. Last year the company held a meeting here and several other regional sessions.

Ann Brody, 59, Dies

Ann Brody Goldstein, 59, known as Ann Brody in films and on the stage, died here at the weekend. Miss Brody, a native of Poland, appeared in motion pictures in the early days of Vitagraph in Brooklyn and later went to Hollywood.

Reviews

"The Seventh Cross"

(M-G-M)

PANDRO S. BERMAN has transformed Anna Seghers' best-selling novel, "The Seventh Cross," dealing with the escape of a group of men from a German concentration camp, in 1936, into an excellent, grimly realistic, suspenseful dramatic film starring Spencer Tracy. Under Fred Zinnemann's splendid direction, the well-chosen cast—which also includes Signe Hasso, Hume Cronyn, Jessica Tandy, Feliz Bressart and Herbert Rudley—makes this an outstanding film and a living document of German brutality.

Emphasis in the screen play, which Helen Deutsch wrote from Miss Seghers' novel, is on Tracy's desperate attempt to contact his friends in the German underground in Mainz after his escape from a concentration camp. The only apparent crime of Tracy and six others who made the break is that they were liberals. But this does not prevent their captors from degrading them. Suspense and action and an insight into the attitude of mild-mannered Germans toward the Nazis highlight the manhunt. Tracy gradually regains his courage and cunning as his friends shelter him while he tries to contact the underground. The underground in turn makes frantic attempts to reach him. There is a brief romantic interlude between Tracy and Miss Hasso before Tracy is finally whisked away to safety after the Nazis have recaptured all the others.

Tracy adds another brilliant portrayal to his long list of screen characterizations, in the role of the hunted German liberal. Miss Hasso is lovely in the brief romantic interlude as she aids the others in helping Tracy to escape. Cronyn is an utterly believable mild-mannered German who does not hesitate to stick his neck out to help a friend. Karl Freund's photography is an asset in the handsome production which producer Berman provided. It combines excellent direction and inspired casting. In adding the name of Tracy for box-office appeal Berman has turned out a film that should register substantially even though many underground films have preceded this one.

Running time, 111 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON.

"Wing and a Prayer"

(20th Century-Fox)

THE reputedly authentic saga of a lone, unnamed heroic American aircraft carrier which was used as a decoy shortly after Pearl Harbor to deceive the Japs into believing that we had scattered our remaining Pacific naval strength, has been wrought into a dramatic, exciting action melodrama in "Wing and a Prayer" by producers William A. Bacher and Walter Morosco. Featured in this new 20th Century-Fox film dealing with naval warfare are Don Ameche as the stern flight operations officer of the carrier; Dana Andrews as the easy-going torpedo plane squadron commander; William Ethye, a Hollywood screen idol turned pilot, and a capable all-male supporting cast which includes Charles Bickford, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Kevin O'Shea, Richard Jaeckel, Henry Morgan and Richard Crane. It is an entertainment package that should do well at the box office.

The action in the story written for the screen by Jerome Cady starts at the time when everyone was asking where the U. S. Pacific fleet was, but the admirals weren't telling since the only chance of preventing an attempt by the Japs to take Pearl Harbor was strategy. To accomplish this strategy the Japs had to be made to believe that we had deployed the various units of our fleet over a wide area and this was the mission assigned to Carrier X. The assignment was a heart-breaking one for the flyers who were itching to get their hands on the Jap Zero planes but their orders were to avoid any encounters with the Japs. And if the assignment was a miserable one for the flyers it was more miserable for Ameche who commanded their operations aboard the carrier. But the undertaking was a success and the Jap fleet was lured to Midway where the U. S. Navy dealt it a severe blow.

Henry Hathaway's direction stresses the tension aboard the carrier without resorting to the usual histrionics and, as a result, the film emerges as another excellent document of naval warfare. Glen MacWilliams' photography is splendid, augmented, presumably by official U. S. Navy shots depicting an actual aerial attack upon the carrier. Twentieth Century-Fox should have no difficulty in selling this to the customers in view of the wide interest in aircraft carriers and their operations. Producers Bacher and Morosco have supplied an appealing production peopled with a host of good acting talent.

Running time, 97 minutes. "G."* To be released in August in block No. 1.

MILTON LIVINGSTON.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Spain Pays Its Film Debts to U.S. Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

in 1944-45. Universal has earmarked 10 to 15 features for Spain, doubling the number shown during the past season, Aguilar said.

One important condition that must be fulfilled in stepping up the flow of American pictures in Spain is the required distribution in the Americas of Spanish product. Universal's most recent acquisition under this arrangement is "Te Quiero Para Mi" ("I Want You for Myself Alone"), which the company will distribute in South America and possibly in the U. S., Aguilar announced.

"American films are more popular than the British," Aguilar said, "and the showing of German films, except newsreels, has been stopped altogether." He explained that the German product is "too heavy for the Spanish mentality" and is now taboo because of the regulation against any war subjects. In fostering Spain's neutrality, the government requires newsreels to be 50 per cent German and 50 per cent from Allied sources.

Aguilar, who has supervised Universal's five exchanges in Spain since 1936, after a term with Paramount there and, previously, service in the Spanish Merchant Marine, likewise represents the company in Portugal. In that country, where business, he reported, is also good, there are no restrictions other than high customs duties and a ban on "definite war films."

5th Special Events Increase to 14,077

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the events held through July 27.

Exhibitors are to mail their final and complete reports to the national committee in New York on the night of Thursday, July 27.

Incomplete returns on "Free Movie Day" show such events held in 7,770 theatres, as compared with 3,403 in the Fourth Loan; 5,198 "War Bond Premieres" for adults, as against 3,182 in the Fourth War Loan, and 1,069 "Children's Premieres." In addition, there were 40 registered events not included in any of these categories.

Fleitman to PRC; Bonwick Resigns

(*Continued from page* 1)

sales manager, McCarthy announced here yesterday.

Bonwick's resignation is effective immediately, with Arthur B. Johnson elected secretary-treasurer at the board of directors' meeting which elevated Leon Fromkess to the presidency, as reported Monday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Count Cutelli Dies

SEATTLE, July 18.—Count Gaetano Mazzaglia Cutelli, creator of the voice of "Porgy the Pig" and other sound effects in films, died here at the weekend. Count Cutelli, an Italian nobleman, could reproduce more than 2,000 sounds for films.

"STEP LIVELY" stepped into Rochester, Syracuse, Des Moines and New Orleans last week and knocked the pants off of every record for a year – and this included the big 'uns you don't brush over with a feather duster!

"STEP LIVELY" has got something that WORKS at the Box Office. Maybe it's Sinatra, maybe it's Gloria DeHaven, maybe it's George Murphy or Menjou or the rest of that grand cast – or maybe it's all of 'em, plus a zippy story, Hit Parade songs, pretty gals & lots of fun.

We're not asking questions – just sittin' here bug-eyed at the grosses!

Sincerely yours,

RKO

The Showman's Company

FRANK SINATRA · GEORGE MURPHY · ADOLPHE MENJOU · GLORIA DE HAVEN · WALTER SLEZAK · EUGENE PALLETTE

Step Lively

with WALLY BROWN • ALAN CARNEY • GRANT MITCHELL • ARNE ARNEY

Produced by Robert Fellows • Directed by Tim Whelan • Screen Play by [illegible]



Featuring

DALE EVANS · MARY LEE

LLOYD CORRIGAN • THURSTON HALL

BOB NOLAN and the SONS of the PIONEERS

JOSEPH KANE, Director

Original Screenplay by GORDON KAHN • OLIVE COOPER

Songs

"It's Love, Love, Love!"
"New Moon Over Nevada"
"Hi Ho Little Dogies"
"The Harum Scarum Baron of the Harmonium"
"What Are We Goin' To Do?"
"A Cowboy Has To Yodel In The Morning"

A Republic Picture

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 13 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1944 TEN CENTS

Admissions Hit 875 Millions, U.S. Reports

Highest Figure Ever Reached, Says Gov't

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Civilian motion picture theatres in the United States took in $875,000,000 in admissions in 1942—last year for which figures are available—it was disclosed by the Department of Commerce.

New estimates of consumer expenditure prepared in the national income unit of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce placed the amount spent on film theatre admissions at the highest figure ever attained, and very close to double the depression low reached in 1933.

The $875,000,000 in 1942 admissions

(*Continued on page 3*)

Industry Meeting With OCR Today

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The revived Theatre Industry Advisory Committee to the Office of Civilian Requirements will meet with the OCR service trades division here today to discuss manpower, new theatres, equipment and the shortage of freon gas.

The committee, appointed by Donald R. Longman, division chief, consists of: Ed Kuykendall, Columbia, Miss.; Robert W. Wilby, Atlanta; Hugh W. Bruen, Whittier, Cal.; Claude C. Ezell, Dallas; Joseph Blumenfield, San Francisco; Martin

(*Continued on page 3*)

McMurphey Leaves WPB; Joins OWI

WASHINGTON, July 19.—George W. McMurphey, for the past 10 months Chief of the Recreation and Amusements Section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, will leave the War Production Board Friday to join the Office of War Information as manager of Informational Campaigns, it was announced today.

McMurphey's intention to resign was

(*Continued on page 3*)

20th-Fox May Have Regional Meetings

With practically all other distributors having held or scheduled sales meetings for 1944-45, 20th Century-Fox is considering whether or not to hold a series of regionals, as in 1943, in light of transportation difficulties. Tom Connors, distribution vice-president, said yesterday that a decision is expected shortly.

Last of the scheduled national meetings will take place next Monday through Wednesday, when RKO assembles at the Waldorf-Astoria here. Warners will hold a "skeleton" session in mid-August. M-G-M and Paramount will have no formal gatherings.

RKO Films Telecast Democrats for NBC

National Broadcasting launched its television coverage of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago over its television station WNBT here last night with "The Democratic Party on Parade" made specially for the occasion by RKO Television Corp., using Pathe facilities.

The 30-minute film, an entertaining and interesting documentary tracing the Democratic party back to Thomas Jefferson; recalling the Democratic presidents of the past with considerable footage devoted to the careers of Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt; as well

(*Continued on page 3*)

Loew's Foreign Unit May Be Pattern for Other Companies

Loew's experience to date with the operation of Loew's International Corp., which was formed to control all of the company's foreign business, has been so satisfactory that other companies are studying the operational plan with a view to patterning their own foreign operations upon it, it is learned.

The International Corp., formed some time ago, has resulted in savings of several million dollars, David Bernstein, treasurer of Loew's, Inc., revealed here, recently, and as a result of which it has contributed an estimated $1,000,000 in extra dividends to stockholders of the parent company during the past fiscal year. Representatives of other companies have discussed the set-up with Bernstein and have obtained information from him as to its details.

The saving is accomplished as a result of two features of the U. S. excess profits tax law, from which companies doing 95 per cent of their business abroad are exempt and which, making a 40 per cent annual levy on profits from direct operations, applies

(*Continued on page 6*)

PRC Sales Meet in Cleveland Saturday

Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager, will hold a regional sales meeting in Cleveland on Saturday and Sunday. Representatives from the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Detroit and Pittsburgh areas will attend.

Bond Reports Are Owners' Responsibility: O'Donnell

R. J. O'Donnell, industry national "Fighting Fifth" War Loan chairman, yesterday warned exhibitor drive participants that the filing of reports on July 27, covering the fifth campaign is the individual exhibitors' responsibility.

Cards on which exhibitors are to report fifth loan results will be in the mails today to every theatre in the country.

Individual circuit managers, and not circuit headquarters are required to report directly; nor are state drive chairmen to report for individual theatres, declared O'Donnell, who ex-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Loew Circuit Sales Top $15,000,000

Fifth War Loan bond sales in Loew Theatres between June 1 and July 17 amounted to $15,435,775. Of this amount, New York theatres sold $9,578,000.

Some 291,005 bonds valued at $31,815,627 were sold by theatres in the New York area between June 1 and July 16, according to local chairman Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew executive.

Rank Product To Nathanson In Dominion

Empire-Universal Gets 20 Films Next Year

MONTREAL, July 19.—An announcement by A. W. Perry, general manager of Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., Toronto, in conjunction with the annual company convention at the Mt. Royal here, reveals the entry of J. Arthur Rank of London into the Canadian field through an agreement with the Empire-Universal distributing organization headed by Paul L. Nathanson.

The contract, which sets at rest many rumors over a lengthy period, provides for the exclusive Canadian distribution rights through Empire-Universal of 20 features of Eagle-Lion Film Co. and Two Cities, Ltd., during 1944-45, with a British depart-

(*Continued on page 3*)

'Locally Needed' Is Held in Abeyance

The War Activities Committee distributors' division is still undecided whether it should pursue further attempts to secure "locally needed" designations for exchanges. At a luncheon-meeting held at the Hotel Astor here yesterday, at which action was to be taken one way or another, it was decided, for the present at least, not to abandon attempts to secure these designations from the War Manpower Commission.

"Locally needed" designations have been secured for exchange help in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and the industry was in the process of filing

(*Continued on page 3*)

Philipson Replaces deGru at Paramount

Joe Philipson, formerly general manager of the Cooper-Paramount theatre interests, who recently joined the Paramount distribution department in New York, has been appointed head of the Paramount contract approval and analysis department by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president and general sales manager. Philipson replaces Peggy deGru, who has resigned that

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president; MURRAY SILVERSTONE, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and SAM SHAIN arrived here by plane last night from the Coast after a fortnight at the studio.

•

EDWARD L. KUYKENDALL, president of the MPTOA, is attending the Democratic National Convention in Chicago with the delegation from his home state, Mississippi.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, and GEORGE JOSEPHS, manager of the sales accounting division, will arrive today from San Francisco.

•

GEORGE SCANLAN, general manager of the photo products division of E. I. du Pont de Nemours, is back at his desk in Wilmington following an illness of several months.

•

FRANK KENNEBECK, Paramount's Caribbean manager, is en route back to Trinidad, West Indies, after a visit in Omaha with his family.

•

SAMUEL RINZLER of the Randforce circuit in Brooklyn and Long Island will spend August vacationing at Highmount, New York.

•

CHARLES L. BECKER, reporter on *Boxoffice*, and MRS. BECKER, announce the birth of a son, ROBERT JAY.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, will return today from Albany and Buffalo.

•

BEN KALMEKSON, general sales manager for Warners, spent yesterday in Philadelphia.

•

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists vice-president, is enroute to London.

Mulvey, Disney Heads To RKO Convention

Scheduled to attend RKO's annual sales convention, opening Monday at the Waldorf-Astoria here, are James Mulvey, vice president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, with a delegation of Goldwyn executives including Lester Rawson, W. Heineman, B. Fish and Morton Nathanson.

Representing Walt Disney Productions will be Roy Disney, vice president; Verne Caldwell, James Finey, Kay Kamen, William Levy, W. Lowenberg, Leo Samuels and F. Waldheim.

Mills Joins PRC, Canada

TORONTO, July 19.—Announcement is made by Harry J. Allen, general manager, of the appointment of Lloyd J. Mills, formerly with the 20th Century Theatres, as Toronto manager of Producers Releasing of Canada.

UA Sales Delegates Start Arriving

Half of the 40 sales delegates will arrive this evening for the first session of the United Artists combined New York and Boston district sales meetings which will get underway tomorrow at the Warwick Hotel here.

Branch managers and salesmen scheduled to attend the two-day combined district meetings will include James Winn, Boston district manager, and the following representatives from his territory: from Boston, John J. Dervin, G. L. Hager, Nat Ross, Joe Cronan, H. Schaeffer; Buffalo, Matt Sullivan, Jr., salesmen L. A. Herman, Ray Wylie; J. A. Bykawski; William Shartin, Irving Mendlesohn.

Sam Lefkowitz, New York district manager, will have the following members from his district attending: from New York, Jack Ellis, Ed Mullen, Charles Goetz, Dave Burkan, Bill Schuster, Sam Rifkin, Richard Perry, George Jeffrey; Philadelphia, Harry Bodkin, Melvin Koff, Harry Tyson, Ralph Peckham, G. J. Gates; Washington, Mark Silver, G. E. Price, M. Seigal, S. Pike, M. Rose.

Carl Leserman, general sales manager, will preside.

Sixth Hanson Unit Starts in Canada

TORONTO, July 19.—The latest of Oscar R. Hanson's trade units started here this week with a visit from New York of Ralph B. Randall, sales vice-president of Microfilm Corp., and Ralph DeSola, technical supervisor of Microstat Corp., for the opening of Microfilm - Microstat, Ltd., with George Oullahan as general manager. Hanson is opening throughout the Dominion sales and services branches, which will be separate from his offices for Monogram Pictures, Esquire Films, Pioneer Films, Sterling Films and Hanson 16mm Movies, Ltd.

Balaban, Zukor Give Navy Relief Check

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of directors, presented a $50,000 check, first installment on a portion of the grosses from "The Story of Dr. Wassell," to Admiral James O. Richardson, executive secretary of the Navy Relief Society, in a ceremony at the home office here yesterday following a luncheon at the 21 Club. Among those present were Lieut. Commanders Edmund De Long and William C. Higgins, Russell Holman, Robert Gillham, Al Wilkie, Claude Lee and representatives of the trade press.

Pope to Cleveland

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Christ Pope, former booker for Schine Theatres here, and more recently attached to the Schine home office in Gloversville, has been transferred to Cleveland to be in charge of booking for Belpik Theatres, a Schine subsidiary.

Isolated Troops Will Obtain Film Recreation

WASHINGTON, July 19.—Plans are maturing whereby Army units in isolated locations which now are without recreation will receive motion picture service, it was learned here today.

As a result of proposals which have been developed by meetings between representatives of the WAC and Army and Navy officials, the Navy may undertake to make available for small groups of troops in isolated positions which cannot be served by the Army film circuits.

While there are only a relatively few groups of soldiers now outside the limits of Army film service, it is understood that the number may be expected to increase materially as the war in the Pacific widens. In the course of the Pacific campaign it is probable that troops will be located at a large number of points over a wide area.

The plan may work both ways, with the Army providing films for Naval units long at sea and unable to pick up new films from the Navy film service.

Reelect Schenck, All Loew Officers

The board of directors of Loew's, Inc. has reelected all officers of the corporation, headed by Nicholas M. Schenck, president. The board was reelected by stockholders at their annual meeting here Tuesday. Reelected in addition to Schenck were David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer; vice-presidents J. Robin Rubin, W. F. Rodgers, Edward A. Schiller, Edward J. Mannix, Al Lichtman, Howard Dietz, C. C. Moskowitz, J. R. Vogel, Ben Thau and Sam Katz; Leopold Friedman, secretary; assistant treasurers Charles K. Stern, Moskowitz, Len Cohen and R. Lazarus, and Jesse T. Mills, comptroller and assistant secretary.

WB Newark Mgrs. Meet with Bernhard

Managers and executive staff members of Warner Theatres in the Newark area met there this week with Joseph Bernhard, general manager of WB theatres. Frank Damis, who succeeds Don Jacocks as zone manager for the territory, was introduced.

Following a short talk by Damis, Jacocks, who resigned to open his own offices, delivered a farewell address. Among those who attended the meeting was Harry Goldberg, advertising-publicity director for the circuit, from the home office.

Para.'s Lt. Cardea Cited

Lt. Armand Cardea, formerly of the Paramount foreign publicity department, now a bombardier with the AAF overseas, has been awarded the Air Medal for "exceptionally meritorius achievement" during recent bombing attacks on German defense lines.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, June 19

PARAMOUNT studio executives have signed a new agreement with Sidney Lanfield under which he will direct six pictures during the next three years, the first to be "Duffy's Tavern," which will star Ed Gardner, Bob Hope, William Bendix, Victor Moore and others. Lanfield's most recent Paramount picture was "Bring on the Girls."

•

Jack L. Warner has added two more pictures to the new Warner schedule to get under way next month. They are: "Nobody Lives Forever," Jean Negulesco directing John Garfield from the W. R. Burnett novel, and "Pillar to Post," which has been added to Alex Gottlieb's production schedule.

•

Following Harold Lloyd's plea that his 13-acre estate is unprofitable, the County Equalization Board yesterday reassessed the property, cutting $14,000 from the previous $178,570 assessment. The tax is approximately $9,000.

•

International Pictures appointed Walter Thompson, formerly editorial supervisor, to head the studio's operations committee to coördinate departmental activities and expedite production processes.

•

Kay Francis will take up her duties with Monogram as co-producer and star early in August. The picture which she will first co-produce with Jeffrey Bernerd will be called "Divorce."

•

Screen Actors Guild has joined the Council of Hollywood Unions and Guilds which was formerly known as the Emergency Committee.

•

Universal has released producer-director Felix Feist from his contract; the separtion is said to be amicable to both parties.

•

James Mulvey and William F. Schneider entrained for New York today following conferences with Samuel Goldwyn.

•

Lou Levy, manager of the Andrews Sisters, will produce a feature starring the trio, for release by RKO.

•

Edward Golden will entrain on the Santa Fe's *Superchief* Friday to attend the RKO convention in New York.

•

Columbia announced a series of 10 westerns starring Charles Starrett in "Durango Kid."

Ross Purchases Home

Harry A. Ross, president of Ross Federal Service, national film research and theatre checking organization, has purchased a five-story home at 12 E. 67th St. The building, formerly owned by the Munson family of the Munson Steamship interests, is assessed at $68,000.

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Rank Product To Nathanson In Dominion

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment being set up within Empire-Universal to handle the product of the world-wide Rank organization, this being separate from E-U's established arrangements for distribution of Universal and Republic product.

The complete list of British films for the Canadian market was not revealed by Perry but it starts off with "This Happy Breed," a Noel Coward picture in color, and "Demi-Paradise," starring Lawrence Olivier.

No mention is made of any relation with 20th Century-Fox, closely allied with Eagle-Lion in the United States, in connection with the Canadian franchise for Rank's releases, and it is understood that the Canadian deal is entirely distinct from any arrangement with Spyros Skouras, head of 20th Century-Fox. There is also understood to be no tie-up between Rank and Odeon Theatres of Canada, of which Paul Nathanson is also chief. It has been said that Canadian Odeon is not interested in any investment overtures from Rank nor has sought any outside financing.

J. B. Cronk's Appointment

Coincident with the deal for Rank's product in Canada is the announcement of the appointment of J. B. Cronk of Toronto as manager of a new exploitation department of Empire-Universal, which is a step in the expansion move to take care of the Rank development. A U-E British films division is being established with branches in six Canadian key cities, it is understood, so that British product will be distinct from Universal and Republic distribution. Cronk, a veteran in exploitation, resigned as promotion manager of United Artists in Canada, to accept the appointment. Canadian campaigns will be built up on each British feature.

Incidentally, John Davis of London, representing Rank, is scheduled for a visit in Canada for an important conference on contract details and he will go to the United States later for talks with Skouras on Rank distribution plans there.

Grainger, Scully and McCarthy Are Honored

MONTREAL, July 19.—James R. Grainger, president of Republic, and W. A. Scully and F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal executives, attending the 12th annual convention of Empire-Universal Films here, were given banquets this week during the convention at the Mt. Royal Hotel. Empire-Universal represents both Universal and Republic in Canada.

Those attending the Grainger banquet from Toronto included Paul L. Nathanson, Frank H. Fisher, George H. Beetson, Harry Painter, Walter J. Kennedy and a group of salesmen and bookers of the Empire and Sovereign offices there. Among Montreal exhibitor officials attending were: Arthur Hirsch, George N. Ganetakos, John Ganetakos, A. N. Tabah, Alexander Adelman, George Rotsky and William Lester, as well as Ben Norrish, president of Associated Screen News.

Among those attending the Scully-McCarthy banquet from Toronto were president J. J. Fitzgibbons and vice-president R. W. Bolstad of Famous Players Canadian; Haskell M. Masters, general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada; Hon. J. Earl Lawson, a director of the Odeon; T. J. Bragg, president of General Theatres, and W. J. Kennedy, general manager of Sovereign Film.

Many theatre chain executives of Montreal were also among the invited guests who included E. Beauregard, K.C., chairman of the Quebec Board of Censors.

RKO Films Telecast Democrats for NBC

(*Continued from page* 1)

as presenting the aspirants for the vice-presidential nomination at the present convention. Old Pathe stock shots of previous Democratic conventions since the turn of the 20th Century embodied more action than the shots of previous Republican conventions and did not comprise the major portion of the footage. Commentary was supplied by Paul Aley, formerly with M-G-M's News of the Day and now on NBC's staff.

Shots of the delegates arriving at the present convention, made by a special Pathe crew, were televised following the film. Four crews of Pathe camera and sound men are photographing the convention for NBC's television coverage by arrangement with RKO Television Corp. The films are being flown from Chicago for telecasting the next day over WNBT with WRGB in Schenectady and WPTZ in Philadelphia also participating. Shots of the opening of the convention will be televised over the three stations tonight.

Kuhn Will Handle Republican Press

Irene C. Kuhn, assistant director of information of National Broadcasting, and former MOTION PICTURE DAILY staff writer, has taken leave of absence from the network to become associate director of publicity for the Republican Presidential campaign, it was announced here yesterday by Herbert Brownell, Jr., chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Mrs. Kuhn, with NBC for four years, previously was engaged in newspaper work for 15 years in this country, Europe and in the Far East.

Sol Winokur Appeals Clearance Decision

Sol Winokur, operator of the Ritz Theatre, Watervleit, Mich., has appealed the dismissal of his clearance complaint against M-G-M, Warners, RKO and Paramount, the American Arbitration Association announced here yesterday.

John L. Lovett, arbitrator in the Detroit tribunal, had held that the clearance imposed by the defendants in favor of the Loma and Hart Theatres, Hartford, Mich., is not unreasonable.

Price Leaves Astor

TORONTO, July 19.—Harry Price, veteran exchange manager, has resigned as general manager of Astor Pictures of Canada, here. Astor superseded Superior Films last year, of which Price had been general manager for many years.

'Locally Needed' Is Held in Abeyance

(*Continued from page* 1)

for such designations in over 20 other cities when the WMC tightened its requirements for such designations last month. Since then, a conference with WMC head Paul V. McNutt was held but there has been no indication of what the WMC intends to do about the industry's manpower problems.

Ned E. Depinet, WMC division chairman, presided at yesterday's meeting. Among those present were: Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox; Charles M. Reagan, Paramount; Robert Mochrie and Leon J. Bamberger, RKO; I. F. (Mike) Dolid, Warner Bros.; H. M. Richey, M-G-M; M. J. Weisfeldt, Columbia; Carl Lesserman, United Artists; E. T. Gomersall, Universal; Walter Titus, Republic; Ed Morey, Monogram; George Dembow, National Screen Service, and Francis Harmon and Walter Brown of WAC.

Industry Meeting With OCR Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

G. Smith, Toledo; William F. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va.; and S. H. Fabian, Joseph Bernhard, Lewis A. Lotito and Joseph R. Vogel, New York.

At a morning session the group's functions will be outlined by Kenneth A. Harvey of the OCR Office of Industry Advisory Committee and its legal status by John MacLay of the legal department. Following will be forums on the OCR program for new theatres in war communities and on the possibility of getting more seats, carpeting and other equipment through the availability of war industry surpluses. Chances of obtaining more freon gas for cooling systems will be taken up with Franklin Millham, administrator.

Springfield Observes Its Plan in MOT

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 18.—Over 200 of Springfield's civic, business, theatre and organizational leaders as well as the press and radio attended a special preview of The March of Time's "Americans All," in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Kimball yesterday afternoon. Of interest to those attending the preview was the Springfield Plan which is a feature part of the film and shows how this is being carried out under Superintendent of Schools Dr. John Granrud. Among those attending were Congressman Charles A. Clason, Nathan Goldstein of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Philip A. Richardson, city editor of the Springfield *Republican* and Dr. John Granrud.

Legion Classifies 7 Feature Releases

The Legion of Decency this week made the following classifications for new films:

Class A-1, "Forty Thieves," Monogram; "Since You Went Away," United Artists; A-2, "Falcon in Mexico," RKO; "The Seventh Cross," M-G-M; "A Wac, a Wave and a Marine," Monogram, and Class B, "Take It or Leave It," 20th-Fox.

Admissions Hit 875 Millions, U.S. Reports

(*Continued from page* 1)

represents more than 85 cents out of each dollar spent for amusement admissions and close to 20 per cent of the total expenditure for recreation.

The bureau's survey covered a period of 14 years, starting with 1929 when admissions were placed at $720,100,000 out of a total of $913,500,000 paid for all admissions to spectator amusements. The high pre-depression level was reached in 1930, when film theatres took in $732,400,000 out of a total admission expenditure of $890,100,000.

After 1930, a decline set in which cut total admissions by 4.3 per cent as the depression accelerated, film theatre income in 1931 being $719,400,000 out of a total of $853,200,000; in 1932, $527,400,000 out of a total of $632,500,000, and in 1933, $482,500,000 out of a total of $573,900,000.

From that point on, however, admissions were on the upgrade, the bureau reported, amounting to $518,500,000 in 1934 out of a total of $624,000,000; $556,100,000 in 1935 out of $672,200,000; $626,100,000 in 1936 out of $758,900,000; and $676,500,000 in 1937 out of $819,200,000.

In 1938, there was a slight cut-back, with film theatre admissions slipping to $663,100,000 out of a total of $815,800,0000 and in 1939 a further loss to $659,400,000 out of $821,500,000, but in 1940 the upward trend was resumed at $709,200,000 out of $870,600,000, with a further gain to $755,700,000 out of $929,100,000 in 1941, and in 1942 to the high of $875,000,000.

The bureau had no figures on 1943, but it made some preliminary estimates indicating that the total expenditure of $4,640,000,000 for recreation of all types in 1942 would run around $5,000,0000,000 for last year.

The expenditure for all recreation in 1942 amounted to 5.2 cents out of every dollar of consumer expenditures which was the average for the period 1929-41, but it was estimated the 1943 expenditure would drop to 5.1 cents on the dollar.

McMurphey Leaves WPB; Joins OWI

(*Continued from page* 1)

reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY June 28 as a result of changes in the OCR policy which he felt reduced his opportunity to serve the film industry to a point where to remain longer would serve no useful purpose.

OCR officials said no successor to McMurphey has yet been named but his work will be carried on by the staff of the office until an acting head is appointed.

During the course of his service, McMurphey developed a nationwide program designed to provide some 200 additional theatres for war production centers. Only a fraction of that number was approved by WPB, however, as a result of increasing manpower stringencies. He also planned development of other forms of recreation which also ran athwart the plans of WPB for keeping civilian construction to a minimum.



COMING WITH A HUG AND A KISS FOR THE WHOLE IN

WAR BULLETIN! PLEASE HAVE FIGURES READY FOR 5th WAR LOAN SALES REPORT!

KNEE!

e of every G.I.!



STRY...with pride and JOY from WARNERS!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

Bond Reports Are Up to Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

plained that managers or exhibitors can send duplicate reports to circuit home offices or to state chairmen, although this is optional.

The industry's national fifth drive committee will send each exhibitor and distributor state chairman a periodic progress report on the results of bond sales listed by every theatre in their territories.

The simplified report is to be the complete report of the exhibitor's campaign. It will include the record of bond sales from June 1 through July 27, and is to be mailed back to O'Donnell at national "Fighting Fifth" headquarters in New York at the close of business on Thursday, July 27. The card is to be the official "Fighting Fifth" drive report from which the final figures of the industry's patricipation in the drive will be computed.

The card report is designed to cover all Bond sales by a theatre in a manner that will enable the staff of the War Activities Committee in New York to tabulate the over-all nationwide result of all theatres in a minimum of time and with a minimum of effort, O'Donnell explained.

Meanwhile, declaring that "exhibitors are becoming aware of the importance of such reports, not just to the committee in charge, but also to the theatre owner himself and to his own future as an integral part of this great industry," Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, in a statement to John J. Friedl, "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign director, urges every exhibitor to mail his complete Fifth War Loan report to the national committee on July 27.

Bond Shows At All St Louis 1st Runs

ST. LOUIS, July 19.—In an effort to put St. Louis over the top in the sale of "E" Bonds for the Fifth War Loan, what is described as the biggest of "Free Movie" premieres in the industry will be staged here Saturday. All seven of St. Louis' first-runs will participate. Special sections will be reserved at each theatre for purchasers of $500 "E" bonds.

Films which will have their local premieres at the bond shows are as follows: Ambassador, "Hail the Conquering Hero"; Fox, "I Love a Soldier"; Loew's State, "American Romance"; Orpheum, "Dragon Seed"; Missouri, "Mr. Skeffington"; Shubert, "Step Lively"; St. Louis, "Marine Raiders."

Two Shows Bring $2,555,610 Sale

HARRISBURG, Pa., July 19.—War bond sales totaling $2,555,610 were registered by Harrisburg and Dauphin County theatres for the two war bond shows sponsored for the Fifth War Loan. The first, which drew 4,500 to two performances of the New Cumberland Army Reception Center show, "Gullible's Travels," at the State, resulted in the sale of $2,300,000 worth of bonds, while the second, a preview of M-G-M's "Bathing Beauty," attracted 1,500 who bought $255,610 worth of bonds at Loew's.

Short Subject Reviews

"Devil Boats"

(*Warners*)

In line with its policy of producing service films to educate the public to the inner workings of our Armed Forces, Warners has come forth with an effective and inspiring story of a Navy Patrol Torpedo ship, and its crew.

Photographed in striking color, "Devil Boats" reaches the peak of the WB service series, showing the hand of Andre De La Varre, who, with A. Pam Blumenthal, has produced an instructive, yet interesting and even thrilling short subject. From his post in a defense plant, Bob Palmer, played by Warren Douglas, is followed through his training as a P.T. "skipper." Highlighted is his performance in action against enemy sea power in the South Pacific. "Devil Boats" is excellent from every point. Running time, 20 mins.

"Boot and Spur"

(*RKO Pathe*)

The Army's cavalry schools at Fort Riley, Kansas, and Camp Robertson, Nebraska, are the locales of this spirited short which should have an unusual appeal to horse lovers and also furnish genuine entertainment and interest to the average. Cavalry exercises in the field, jumping obstacles and dashes across broken country with many spills for both riders and horses carry this one to a peak of excitement. Many famous jockeys of other years, polo players and horse show experts are shown in this branch of the service. Frederick Ullman, Jr., produced. Running time, 8¼ mins.

"Unusual Occupations"

(*Paramount*)

A freight plane in the Canadian wilds which begins where the railroad ends; the goat people of Sao Paulo who run a novel milk route by dispensing it by the glass from house to house in that Brazilian city; a visit to a Chinese apothecary in San Francisco where a Chinese prescription is filled, necessitating all sorts of dead animals in the formula; a New England artist who fashions her work from huge cakes of ice, and the Army Medical Research Laboratory at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where tests employing extremes of cold and heat are made, are the occupations which go to make up an interesting short. Running time, 10 mins.

"Disillusioned Bluebird"

(*Columbia*)

Battered, ruffled and completely discontented with the world in general following his encounter with a two-ton bomb over Britain, a bluebird, deterred from his flight South, descends upon an island where he finds a group of happy animals, untouched by the war. Singing a highly clever and entertaining piece of rhythmical Calypso, "Calypso" Joe soothes the little bluebird who finds "life can be beautiful." Sir Lancelot's original Calypso ditty is excellent and Edward Seward's story is entertaining. This is one of the best in the "Color Rhapsody" series. Running time 7 mins.

AAF Production Rate Tops Major Studios

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The first film unit of the American Air Forces now is producing more films monthly at the Hal Roach Studios, Culver City, Cal., than any major studio, it was reported here by Col. Roy M. Jones, commanding officer.

Set up in July, 1942, at the old Vitagraph studios, the unit has completed 150 training, orientation and documentary films, and has equipped and sent into action combat camera units to serve with every overseas force, including four special units to cover the invasion of Normandy, Jones said.

Lt. Col. Owen E. Crump is in charge of production, assisted by Maj. Robert Carson and Capt. Richard Baer.

Cleveland Brunette Is 'Cover Girl' Winner

A Columbia publicity contest on "Cover Girl," which enrolled 20,000 entrants, was climaxed at the 21 Club here this week when Dorothy Hart, 21-year-old brunette, was named "National Cinderella Cover Girl of 1944" by illustrators Arthur William Brown, Dean Cornwall, Russell Patterson and Bradshaw Crandall, *Cosmopolitan Magazine* art director Edmund Witalis, Columbia talent scout Carter Blake and Harry Conover, model agent.

Miss Hart will receive a Columbia screen test.

Mexican Exhibitors, Producers Fight Tax

MEXICO CITY, July 19.—Exhibitors here have joined producers in protest of the government's intended five per cent additional tax on the industry.

Producers claim they make no more than three per cent net on each film. Exhibitors state that, with labor costs, increased rentals and the high cost of promotion campaigns the most they can net is 19 per cent profit.

Philipson Replaces deGru at Paramount

(*Continued from page* 1)

post after many years to assume a similar post with Vanguard Pictures.

Philipson has been associated with the Paramount distribution department in various capacities in the past in addition to his posts with various Paramount theatre interests.

Miss deGru had been with Paramount for 27 years. She was associated with the contract department for 15 years.

Loew's Foreign Unit Pattern for Others

(*Continued from page* 1)

this rate to only 15 per cent of the dividends paid by subsidiaries to their parent companies. Thus, Loew's International Corp. pays no excess profits tax itself, and a tax of only six per cent on the foreign business ultimately is paid by Loew's, Inc.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, July 1

"TERROR on Main Street," short-length feature, has bee acquired by Elite Pictures fron M-G-M. The picture, which wa originally known as "This Preciou Freedom," deals with possible Facis domination of the United States. It original cast included Martin Kosleck Gloria Holden and Helen Mack. Ad ditional scenes will be made by Metr in order to increase the picture's foot age. Arch Oboler, who wrote and di rected the first version, is directing these added sequences with June Carl son, David Bradford and Priscill Lyons.

•

Columbia short subjects produce Ralph Staub will present a 16-mm print of the Screen Snapshots subject "Hollywood in Uniform," to each sta who appeared in it. The first print will go to Clark Gable and Alan Ladd who are both out of the Army an back in Hollywood. Others who wil later receive this film record of thei military service as a demobilizatio gift include Glenn Ford, Tyrone Pow er, Gene Autry, Van Heflin, James Stewart, Eddie Albert, John Payne Rudy Vallee and Ronald Reagan.

•

Regarding the report that Greta Garbo desires to withdraw from the starring role in "Woman of the Sea," which Lester Cowan will produce at the invitation of the Norwegian Government, the producer states the matter is to be taken up with Norwegian officials in Washington. Garbo's acceptance of the role was officially announced by Norway's Ambassador to the United States. . . . Armand Schaefer has assigned John English to direct "Faces in the Fog," Jane Withers starrer, and Lester Sharpe to produce three features: "The Affairs of Geraldine," "Moonlight and Roses," and "Thoroughbreds." The first two are musicals, the third a steeplechase story.

•

Chester Morris has been signed by Columbia to add another picture this year to the three provided under his contract. His current pact specifies two of the three pictures it covers are to star him in the character of "Boston Blackie." . . . Marjorie Rambeau will be featured in Monogram's forthcoming comedy, "Army Wives." . . . Jean Brooks has been cast in one of the top spots in "The Falcon in Hollywood," at RKO. . . . Charles R. Rogers has signed Brian Aherne for one of the principal parts in "High Among the Stars," Jane Powell starrer, which Arthur Lubin will direct.

•

M-G-M will introduce a new romantic leading man in "Thrill of Romance," Van Johnson-Esther Williams starrer. He is Charles Sorel, European painter, and the film will constitute his first American appearance. . . . Bob Waterfield has been signed by Warners for a role in "Objective Burma." . . . Vivian Austin and Billy Dunn will have leading roles in Universal's comedy, "Night Life," which Edward F. Cline will direct for Associate Producer Frank Gross.

Mr. Winkle's' $37,400 Is Best in L. A.

Los Angeles, July 19.—"Mr. Winkle Goes to War," coupled with "Pardon My Rhythm," was the standout among the week's first-runs. It grossed $37,400 at the Pantages-Hillstreet duo, where the average is $36,000. "The Hitler Gang" grossed 33,000 at the two Paramounts, where 31,300 is average. "Take It Or Leave It" at FWC's Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State foursome, took 50,500, which is $10,800 below average for the four houses. Weather was favorable.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 19:

"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,200).

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN — (1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500).

"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,200).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,100).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $14,900).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
PANTAGES — (2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,700).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $20.300).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,700).

"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,500).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,748. (Average: $17,000).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,938. (Average: $18,700).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN — (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,460. (Average: $15,200).

'Atlantic City' In Boardwalk Premiere

Republic's "Atlantic City" will have its world premiere July 29 at Hamid's Pier on Atlantic City's boardwalk. The regular engagement of the picture will begin at the Pier Theatre on July 30.

An extensive promotional campaign has been mapped out for the new musical, including appearances of former vaudeville stars who had their start at Atlantic City, among them: Charley Grapewin, Paul Whiteman, Al Shean and others who also are featured in the picture. Mayor Joseph Altman will attend the opening.



$60,000 for 'My Way' in Sixth Week

Chicago, July 19.—"Going My Way," in its sixth week at the Chicago, continues as the Loop leader, grossing another $60,000, this time with the aid of the "Tars and Spars" stage show with Victor Mature. Business, generally, continued brisk in the first-runs, stimulated this week by the Democratic national convention.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 6th week. Stage: "Tars and Spars" with Victor Mature. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $51,500).

"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,100).

"Dead End" (UA reissue)
"Dixie Jamboree" (PRC)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average 7 days: $9,100).

"Detective Kitty O'Day" (Mono.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Horace Heidt and Orchestra. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $24,000).

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox) 5 days, 3rd week
"Between Two Worlds" (WB) 2 days
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $20,000).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STATE LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $27.000. (Average: $29,000).

"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,200).

"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 12th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Holiday' Grosses $5,500 Over Par

Cincinnati, July 19.—"Christmas Holiday" is on its way to an estimated $19,000 at the RKO Albee, while "Two Girls and a Sailor" should register approximately $13,000 at the RKO Palace, where it is playing a second week after a smashing $19,000 on its initial seven days. Business at other houses is pointing definitely upward.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 19-22:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
RKO ALBEE — (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $19.000. (Average: $13,500).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Oklahoma Raiders" (Univ.)
"The Contender" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).

"Lumberjack" (UA)
"Rosie the Riveter" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $750. Average: $800).

"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, moveover from three weeks at the Grand, after initial week at the Palace. Gross $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

"The Invisible Man" (Univ.)
"Weird Woman" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC — (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,500).

19 MILLION FANS!



M-G-M's JOHN NESBITT

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His sponsors spend 2 millions annually on his radio time alone!

ON 2 MAJOR NETWORKS!

He knows what the public wants! His new M-G-M Short gem is a movie for the millions, rich in fun and facts. It's headed for top awards in money and fame! Fastest growing series!

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"GRANDPA CALLED IT ART"

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WAR BULLETIN! HAVE YOUR BOND SALES FIGURES READY FOR FIFTH WAR LOAN REPORT BLANK

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 14 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

Guilds Start Fight on Film Attacks

Wash. Times-Herald Is First Hit for 'Slur'

Los Angeles, July 20.—In the first move implementing its recently announced decision to actively represent the industry in public relations, the executive committee of the Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions voted last night to take the field against the *Washington Times-Herald* for what it branded a "sight unseen attack on the forthcoming production, 'Wilson'." Action is the first to be taken by any general-membership Hollywood organization in behalf of any individual studio's specified picture. "Wilson" is a 20th Century-Fox production.

The procedure approved at the meeting, which lasted until near midnight, will consist of three steps: an

(*Continued on page 3*)

Industry Continues OWI Production

The industry will continue to provide Government war messages, under the auspices of the domestic film division of the Office of War Information, for the American public during the coming year, according to Stanton Griffis, chief of the OWI film bureau, on leave as chairman of the executive committee of Paramount.

The program will be substantially the same as this year's, 26 subjects in all, one short or one bulletin every two weeks. Distribution will continue to be handled through the War Activities Committee by the newsreel companies. In addition, special sub-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Mrs. A. Moskowitz Dies Here at 80

Mrs. Anna Moskowitz, 80, widely known in the motion picture industry, died yesterday morning after a brief illness at her home at Kew Gardens.

Known as "Mom" to hundreds in the industry, Mrs. Moskowitz was the mother of Charles C. Moskowitz, vice-president of Loew's; Harry Moskowitz, head of Loew's construction department; Arthur Moskowitz; Joseph Moskowitz, New York studio representative of 20th Century-Fox;

(*Continued on page 8*)

QP London Office Hit in Robot Raid

Word reaching here from England discloses that the London Bureau of Quigley Publishing Co., located at Four Golden Square, was hit recently during one of the Nazi rocket bombing raids. No one was injured, and the damage was slight.

British authorities have assured producers whose studios have been seriously damaged by the flying bombs that suitable replacement of studio space, at least equal to that now destroyed, would be released from those plants requisitioned and being used by the Government since the war started.

War Boom Over, Films Too Long, Exhibitors Report

The closing of some Army camps, the reduction of personnel at others, plus layoffs and the elimination of overtime at some war plants, have caused theatre grosses in various parts of the country to dip downward, bringing a number of large circuit operators to the conclusion that the war boom is definitely over, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today in reporting the results of an extensive survey.

A large majority of the exhibitors reporting believe, however, that a new audience has been tapped and that these customers can be held as regular patrons if the quality of product con-

(*Continued on page 2*)

3 May Adopt Loew Plan to Save Millions

At least three distributing companies which do not have separately incorporated holding companies to handle their foreign business are considering setting up such organizations, similar to Loew's International Corp., it was learned here yesterday. They are Warners, Columbia and 20th Century-Fox, and indications are that most, if not all, of the others are giving some thought to the idea.

As reported yesterday in *Motion Picture Daily*, representatives of a number of companies have talked with David Bernstein, treasurer of Loew's, on the workings of Loew's International Corp., which, Bernstein said, has resulted in savings of several million dollars and which contributed an estimated $1,000,000 in extra dividends to stockholders of the parent company during the past year. The Loew executive pointed out that the saving is

(*Continued on page 3*)

Joseph Schnitzer, 57, Dies on Coast

Hollywood, July 20.—Joseph I. Schnitzer, 57, former RKO Radio president, died this morning from a heart attack at his Beverly Hills home. Schnitzer recently resigned as presi-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Face U. S. Free-Lance Pay Control

Producers to Meet on Treasury Salary Order

Hollywood, July 20.—Production and studio heads will meet next week following preliminary studies by counsel, now in progress, to frame a response to the Treasury Department's notification of its intention to require the Wage Stabilization Board's approval for all deals with free-lance players, directors and others receiving more than $1,000 weekly salary.

The Department's outline, received by the producers this week, solicits the studios' opinion regarding the extent to which the new arrangement would hamper production. The proposal is for modification of the De-

(*Continued on page 3*)

'Honor Legion' for Bond Exhibitors

A "Fighting Fifth Legion of Honor" has been created by the U. S. Treasury Department and the industry's national "Fighting Fifth" committee to reward each exhibitor who reports his participation in the Fifth War Loan to the national committee in New York, R. J. O'Donnell, national drive chairman, disclosed here yesterday.

The "Legion of Honor" was created expressly to recognize the "Fighting Fifth" campaign efforts of exhibitors only. Upon receipt of an exhibitor's report, the national committee will send him a scroll of personal enrollment in the "Legion." It was explained that the scroll may be displayed in the theatre. The special

(*Continued on page 3*)

Conn. Gov. Moves On Fire Hazards

Hartford, July 20.—Gov. Raymond R. Baldwin yesterday instructed the state legislative council to study Connecticut statutes relating to places of public assemblage and "the prevention of fires and fire hazards," and recommended that existing laws be made more stringent, if necessary, in order to "avert a recurrence of a tragedy such as the circus fire disaster."

Gov. Baldwin stressed an investigation be made into regulations per-

(*Continued on page 3*)

OCR Tells of Shortages; To Aid Chair Priorities

Washington, July 20.—Told in detail by Office of Civilian Requirements officials how acute the shortages continue to be in such items as general theatre equipment, projection booth and sound supplies, freon gas for cooling, and materials for construction of new houses, the industry's OCR advisory committee, in all-day session here today, drew up plans to make maximum use of existing facilities, both active and idle.

Meeting for the first time with Donald R. Longman, director of the OCR service trades division, and commodity experts of the War Production Board,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Assurances have been secured from Donald R. Longman, chief of the Office of Civilian Requirements' service trades division, Washington, that every effort will be made "to obtain necessary War Production Board priorities" for the manufacture of some 70,000 theatre chairs, according to John Eberson, theatre architect and former consultant to the OCR's recreation and amusement section, who returned to New York from Washington yesterday after conferences with Longman.

The procedure outlined by Longman requires a manufacturer of seats to appeal to the regional WPB for per-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

JACK COHN, Columbia executive vice-president, and JOSEPH A. MCCONVILLE, in charge of foreign distribution, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

•

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, returned from Hollywood yesterday and will leave on a business trip to South America soon.

•

MARTIN G. SMITH, Toledo exhibitor and president of National Allied and of the ITO of Ohio, is expected in New York next Wednesday.

•

MURRAY HOWARD, manager of Warners Palace, South Norwalk, Conn., has become engaged to marry LILLIAN KRANTZ of Hartford.

•

C. J. LATTA, Albany zone manager for Warner Theatres, and CHARLES A. SMAKWITZ, assistant zone manager, arrived in New York yesterday.

•

PAUL F. THOMAS, treasurer of Altec Service, has returned to New York after a visit to Midwest and Coast branches.

•

NAT LEFTON, of Cleveland, head of the PRC franchise holders' committee, is in Chicago this week on business.

•

DOROTHY DAY of M-G-M's publicity department is a patient at the Roosevelt Hospital, where she will undergo a minor operation.

Leserman to Open U.A. Meet Today

Carl Leserman, United Artists' general sales manager, will be the principal speaker at this morning's opening session of the company's two-day combined New York and Boston district 1944-45 sales meeting at the Warwick Hotel here.

The meeting will be presided over by Sam Lefkowitz, New York district manager and James Winn, Boston district manager. Attending the meetings will be branch managers and salesmen from New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Boston, Buffalo and New Haven.

Following Leserman's welcoming address and an outline on forthcoming product, this morning's session will be devoted to discussions on current product. In the afternoon delegates will see David Selznick's "Since You Went Away," at the Capitol Theatre. In the evening delegates will attend a prevue of Edward Small's "Abroad With Two Yanks."

Saturday's session will get underway at 10 a.m. with a broader discussion on product. Later individual district problems will be taken up by district managers with their respective branch managers and salesmen.

RKO Bringing 400 To Meeting Here

More than 400 will attend RKO Radio's 13th annual sales meeting to run three days, starting Monday, in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

In addition to a large representation from the home office, the meeting will include all district and branch managers, salesmen and field exploiteers from the company's 38 exchanges in the U. S. and Canada, as well as delegations from the foreign department, RKO Theatres, the Hollywood studio, Walt Disney Productions, Samuel Goldwyn, International Pictures and RKO Pathe.

Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, will preside, and A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange operations, will call the roll. Monday's and Tuesday's sessions will start off with the screening of two features each day; screenings will be held at the 53rd Street Trans-Lux Theatre, after which the delegation will transfer to the Waldorf-Astoria for business sessions. Pictures to be screened are: "Casanova Brown," "Music in Manhattan," "Bride by Mistake," and "Farewell, My Lovely."

In addition to representatives of affiliates already mentioned as convention delegates, Frederic Ullman, Jr., president of RKO Pathe, will head a delegation of five, including Walton C. Ament, vice-president and editor of the newsreel; Jay Bonafield, production manager; Dudley Hale of the script department, and Alfred Butterfield, news editor. Also, A. W. Schwalberg, sales manager; Robert Goldstein, special representative, and Arthur Jeffrey, Eastern publicity director of International Pictures, will represent that company. Tom Fizdale, advertising and publicity counsel for International, will also attend.

To Set Harris Bond Drive Tribute Plans

Al Sherman, former film publicist and now publicity consultant to the Royal Norwegian Information Service at Washington, will arrive here today to discuss plans for the launching of the Liberty Ship *John P. Harris* with Ken Hoel, publicity director for Harris Amusement Co., and Glendon Allvine, executive secretary of the 50th anniversary committee of the industry.

Plans are to be completed for the Variety Clubs of America to join in a nationwide war bond sale in tribute to Harris, "originator" of the nickelodeon and father of John H. Harris, founder of the Variety clubs and head of Harris Amusements.

Jerome Rosenberg Dies

ASBURY PARK, N. J., July 20.—Jerome Rosenberg, 65, formerly associated with his brother, Walter Reade, in managing a theatre circuit in New York and New Jersey, was found dead here Tuesday. In 1937 Rosenberg managed Convention Hall on the boardwalk in this city. He retired shortly thereafter. Surviving are his widow and a son, Jerome Jr.

War Boom Over, Films Too Long, Exhibitors Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

tinues high. And to keep the quality high the exhibitors warn that the trend toward longer features is dangerous.

Typically, the greater Detroit area has been hit by elimination of overtime at war plants, according to Earl H. Hudson of United Detroit Theatres, while a cut in factory and camp personnel is reported from Des Moines by A. H. Blank of Tri-States Theatres. A similar note on declining grosses is sounded in Salt Lake City, Denver, San Francisco, St. Louis, Chicago, and Mission, Kan., among other places.

In Minneapolis, on the other hand, and in the Kansas City and New York areas, box offices continue to flourish at record heights. 'The peak has not even been reached," says E. C. Rhoden of Fox Midwest at Kansas City, while Irwin Wheeler of the Prudential Circuit here observes: "As long as the patrons have money in their pockets they will part with it for good entertainment."

Creating New Audiences

The creation of a new film audience, in the opinion of Charles R. Gilmour of Gibraltar Enterprises, Denver, can be attributed in part to gasoline rationing. Most of those questioned agree with him as to the trend, but Harry Arthur, Jr., of Fanchon & Marco, St. Louis says, "Our people are still the same people we have always played to." He is backed up by Edwin Silverman of Essaness Theatres, Chicago, who reasons that "after all, the motion picture is as nearly an integral part of American life as a loaf of bread."

As for the longer features, John J. Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis, feels that "there frequently is entirely too much padding in big pictures, and the elimination of 15 to 20 minutes would not only improve the attraction but also be helpful in providing a better turnover." The same view is held by Tracy Barham of Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, who said: "In any long feature you can find dull spots that could be left out without hurting the value of the picture." The opposite view is expressed by Alexander Manta of India-Illinois Theatres, Chicago, who sees in the "marathon films" the eventual elimination of the double feature.

'SYWA' Has Record Capitol Opening

With $6,451 claimed up to five p.m. yesterday, David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away," released by United Artists, appeared to be headed for an all-time opening day record at the Capitol Theatre in New York, according to Loew theatre officials.

The picture which had its world premiere yesterday, is estimated to be headed for a $100,000 first week at the Capitol which is impressive in view of the running time of the show, permitting only five performances daily.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'The WHITE CLIFFS of DOVER' IRENE DUNNE ALAN MARSHAL VAN JOHNSON & SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS
IN PERSON Dave APOLLON AND HIS FILIPINO BOYS
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION Irving CAESAR

Phil Baker - Phil Silvers - Guest Stars
'TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT'
A 20th CENTURY-FOX HIT!
PLUS ON STAGE—
DUKE ELLINGTON & ORCH.
ELLA LOGAN - JERRY LESTER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
"MARINE RAIDERS"
PAT O'BRIEN ROBERT RYAN RUTH HUSSEY

PRC'S
"MINSTREL MAN"
With
BENNY FIELDS GLADYS GEORGE
NOW IN ITS SECOND WEEK
VICTORIA THEATRE Times Square New York

DEAD END
A SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRODUCTION
BRANDT'S B'WAY & 47 ST GOTHAM

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3 May Adopt Loew Plan to Save Millions

(*Continued from page* 1)

made possible because only 15 per cent of the dividends passed on by subsidiaries to their holdings companies is taxable at the 40 per cent excess-profits-tax rate.

Meanwhile, Paramount, which had Paramount International Corp. prior to 1936 and merged it into the parent company that year, has more recently chartered Paramount International Films under the laws of Delaware and this week certified with the Secretary of State at Albany that PIF is entering New York. It is capitalized at $1,100,000 in $100 shares.

C. B. Wikoff, Columbia comptroller, said yesterday: "We do not have a separate holding company for our series of individual foreign companies, but, as is general throughout the business, we are giving it (the Loew plan) some thought." He explained that such a set-up depends on the approval of the U. S. Treasury Department.

20th-Fox Undecided

Wilfred J. Eadie, 20th Century-Fox comptroller, admitted that his company is "considering the question but has arrived at no decision," pointing out that, under the U. S. income tax law, companies doing 95 per cent of their business in foreign countries are exempt from the excess profits tax. Mentioning that approval must be obtained from the U. S. Commissioner of Taxation, Eadie expressed the opinion that the Federal law is "purposely vaguely written" so that officials can use their own judgment in individual cases. He said he had "little doubt that the foreign holding companies, both those now in existence and those to be formed, will end up in the tax court," he added.

Robert E. Schless, Warners' general foreign manager, said, "The matter is under discussion here now," but he was unwilling to elaborate because of "legal complications."

RKO was reliably reported to have a foreign company under advisement, William H. Clark, assistant treasurer, stated that "RKO knows of the situation." He would not reveal, however, what degree of consideration was being given to it.

Because of the loosely-knit nature of United Artists, Walter Gould, foreign manager, indicated that a foreign holding company was not practical for U.A.

Samuel Machnovitch, Universal treasurer, reported that he "personally" had not yet given any thought to setting up a foreign holding company but did not rule out the possibility.

1st Run for 16 PRCs

CHICAGO, July 20.—Harold Mirisch, film buyer for RKO theatres, has closed with Morton Van Praag, PRC manager here, for 16 PRC pictures to be given first-run Loop showings either at the Grand or Palace. First in the deal is "Minstrel Man," current at the Grand.

OCR Will Help on Chair Priorities

(*Continued from page* 1)

mission to complete and assemble the needed units. Then when application is forwarded to Washington, the OCR's recreation section will get behind the project to secure the necessary priorities from the WPB.

Eberson pointed out that the decline in war orders which seating companies have experienced will make it possible to complete and assemble the needed chairs, 50,000 of which are regular chairs and 20,000 are wood veneer.

The theatre chairs are needed for houses which have been authorized for construction and are being built in war production centers. In many instances, it is understood, exhibitors are trying to buy rebuilt or reconditioned chairs. Almost 10 times the number which is being sought, are required, but there is available material to build the 70,000 chairs.

Guilds Will Fight Industry Attacks

(*Continued from page* 1)

immediate protest to the *Times-Herald;* a special release to all major news services, including coverage of the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhood newspapers, and a special bulletin to all available radio channels.

In a statement following the meeting, the Council said: "We concede that any newspaper, after viewing a picture, has the right to criticize it, but we strongly protest and condemn any attempt to slur a picture unseen. In so doing, the *Times-Herald* attempts an organized dictatorial censorship which would destroy not only the freedom of the screen but the freedom of the press as well. We have not seen this picture either. But we most strongly believe that the principle involved demands that pictures be judged on their merit when and as released."

"The attack on 'Wilson' follows the same pattern as the campaign against 'Confessions of a Nazi Spy', a picture which gave memorable warning to the country of the danger of the Nazi menace."

'Honor Legion' for 5th War Loan Owners

(*Continued from page* 1)

citation will bear the official seal of the U. S. Treasury and the official emblem of the War Activities Committee. There will be four signatures, those of O'Donnell as national chairman of the motion picture industry campaign; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division.

Text of the scroll reads: "To (recipient's name), member of the Motion Picture Industry's Fighting Fifth War Loan Army, this citation is awarded. Given in recognition of meritorious service through bond selling activities sponsored by the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry and the War Finance Committee of the U. S. Treasury and given for devotion to a patriotic cause of his country while at war."

OCR Officials Tell Of Shortages in Theatre Equipment

(*Continued from page* 1)

the owners were given a comprehensive view of the equipment picture.

New plans for construction of additional houses in war-congested communities and the criteria which must be met in applications for new theatres were outlined by Longman, who is expected to take over direction of the Recreation and Amusements Section temporarily until a successor for George W. McMurphey can be selected.

The present program calls for a conservative approach to the problem, with the OCR supporting construction projects only where they can definitely be shown to be essential, and with due consideration of the manpower and materials shortages.

However, as soon as the labor and materials supplies improve and some of the present restraints can be relaxed, the OCR will give full assistance to exhibitors in providing necessary service in all sections of the country.

Discuss Equipment Problems

The committee also discussed the situation with respect to booth and sound equipment, being advised of the scarcities of ball bearings, motors, and electronic components which are holding up the production of projector units already authorized by the WPB.

The situation in Freon 12 was talked over, but WPB officials told the committee there would be no refrigerant available for theatre distribution for some weeks, although it is hoped that this fall the release of gas can be provided for on a steady basis so that theatres may have an adequate supply when they go into the 1945 summer weather.

The final major subject of consideration was manpower, with discussion of the exhibitors' problems first and then a study of WMC policies as applied to theatre labor.

In a brief acknowledgment of the war services of the theatres, officials paid tribute to the industry for the manner in which it has cooperated with government agencies.

Membership of the committee includes Si Fabian, New York; Ed. Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss.; Claude C. Ezell, Dallas; Wobert W. Wilby, Atlanta; Joseph R. Vogel, New York; Hugh W. Bruen, Whittier, Cal.; Joseph Blumenfeld, San Francisco; Joseph Bernhard, New York; Martin G. Smith, Toledo; William F. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va., and Lewis A. Lotito, New York.

Conn. Gov. Moves On Fire Hazards

(*Continued from page* 1)

taining to theatres and other places of amusement. He has requested Edward J. Hickey, state police commissioner, to supervise the inspection of all such places, stating that "while theatres in Connecticut are fairly well covered, no harm can come of checking them again in the light of the recent tragedy." The governor also suggested the formulation of a law requiring fireproofing of "flimsy materials" used for decorative purposes in public places.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 20

SAMUEL BRONSTON bought Chodorov's "Decision." Julien Duvivier has been assigned to produce and direct this anti-Fascist play. The terms of the purchase were cash plus a percentage. Bronson also contracted Rene Clair to produce, direct and write "Ten Little Indians."

•

A son, George Robert, was born to Ruth Hussey and her husband, Lieut. Robert Longenecker.

•

Hal Wallis borrowed Joan Fontaine from David O. Selznick to star in "Affairs of Susan".

•

Monogram has set Oct. 21 as the release date for W. R. Frank's "Enemy of Women."

•

Warners renewed Irving Rapper's directorial contract one year.

MGM Unit Expands, Brooks Appointed

Expansion of the Loew-M-G-M department of public relations, headed by Henderson M. Richey, has begun, with the appointment of Walter Brooks as assistant to Richey, effective Monday. Decision to expand the department was announced recently by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, and followed the results obtained by the department in furthering Leo's 20th anniversary last month.

Brooks formerly operated theatres in New York and Pennsylvania and has been consultant to the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs on educational film practice. More recently, he was aide to Drew Pearson, Washington newspaper columnist and radio commentator. He also was formerly advertising-publicity director of Educational Film Exchanges, was affiliated with Eddie Dowling, and for two years handled newspaper relations for Postmaster-General Frank C. Walker in Washington.

Face U. S. Control of Free Lance Salaries

(*Continued from page* 1)

partment's Jan., 1943, ruling, which left free-lance salaries to the discretion of employers. One consequence has been a tendency of high-paid talent to shift from a studio contract to a free-lance basis in order to obtain higher pay. Studio executives say the change would pose a practical problem difficult to overcome.

Rites for Phillips

BUFFALO, July 20.—Funeral services were held here today for Frederick C. Phillips, 56, assistant manager of Shea's Kenmore Theatre, who was killed in a fall from the roof of his home. Burial was in Elm Lawn Cemetery. Phillips is survived by his widow, a daughter, a son and several brothers and sisters.



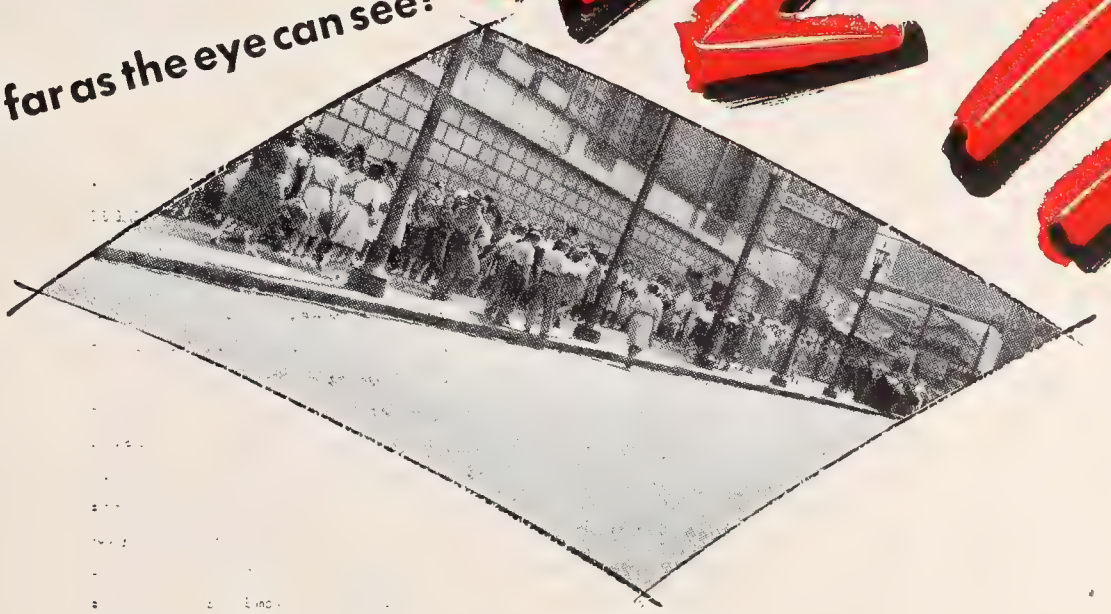
WAR BULLETIN! HAVE YOUR BOND SALES FIGURES READY FOR FIFTH WAR LOAN REPORT BLANK!

THE CAST'S STAR-RIFIC AND THE NEW YORK ROXY CROWDS LOVE IT!



Opening day . . . crowds like this!

RLEAVE IT



crowds...crowds...as far as the eye can see!

"TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT" · Featuring PHIL BAKER · The Man With the $64 Question
With PHIL SILVERS · EDWARD RYAN · MARJORIE MASSOW · STANLEY PRAGER
ROY GORDON · NANA BRYANT · CARLETON YOUNG · Directed by BENJAMIN STOLOFF
Produced by BRYAN FOY · Screen Play by Harold Buchman, Snag Werris and Mac Benoff.

ENTURY-FOX hits the jack-pot with hit after hit!

lome In Indiana"–"The Eve of St. Mark"–"The Song of Bernadette"–"Pin Up Girl"–"Buffalo Bill"



Most exciting success story ever written...

On "Going My Way"

● ● ● **PARAMOUNT EXECS. KNOW they have a great picture in "Going My Way," but what amazes them is the long runs accorded the feature by large and small theaters in large and small towns..... It's no publicity blurb when Paramount predicts that the Bing Crosby starring subject will establish itself among the all-time top grossing pictures of the industry.....Box office figures to date substantiate that belief as house records have been tumbled over right down the line .....Publication of dollars and cents grosses is against Paramount policy, but Phil M. yesterday was given a confidential squint at the figures and all the adjectives such as "colossal," "stupendous," "gigantic" and "terrific" would hardly do justice.....And yet it's not the figures, themselves, that are so gratifying to the sales department as the sustaining of the high grosses over periods far in excess of normal runs in a large majority of the theaters.....**

▼ ▼ ▼

● ● ● *AT THE MASTBAUM in Philly, "Going My Way" in its first week topped the previous house record by [redacted].....And take Providence, for example, where the picture is in its fifth week and where the second week topped the first week by [redacted] and the first week set a new house record.....The Chicago Theater had never played a picture longer than three weeks, but "Going My Way" is in its fifth and will stay at least six.....The house average for the Paramount in Newark is [redacted], but the Bing Crosby picture almost doubled that figure its first week and dropped only [redacted] the second week.....and it's still going strong in its fourth week.....[redacted] is considered an excellent week's gross at the Metropolitan in Boston, but "Going My Way" topped that by a margin of more than [redacted] the opening week.....By a strange clause in the theater's lease, a picture cannot play the Met more than three weeks.....so after playing the three stanzas at that house the picture was moved over to the Paramount and Fenway for day-and-date showings and stayed another three weeks.....At the U. S. Theater in Paterson, "Going My Way" this week is slated to double the usual good week intake of [redacted].....In towns like Hartford and New Haven, the picture has stayed five weeks and will stay seven or eight weeks at the Brooklyn Paramount.....*

▼ ▼ ▼

● ● ● **WHEN THE PICTURE closed last night at the Broadway Paramount, it had played to an estimated 1,007,000 persons or 3,000 more than saw "Lady in the Dark" which was the previous record-holder for the house and which also stayed 10 weeks.....A look at the 10-week figures revealed that the seventh week was the lowest from an attendance standpoint and yet that week's gross would be considered darn good.....The final week's gross was well ahead of that seventh week intake, while the first week wasn't far below the [redacted] mark.....Runs have been extended far in excess of usual house policies in large and small theaters throughout the land and so it is no wonder that the Paramount execs. are feeling pretty good these days.....It's another feature in the cap for Leo McCarey who produced it and another outstanding example of the old saying in this biz that a good picture will do good business.....and in the case of "Going My Way" that an outstanding picture will do "colossal" business in this wartime market or in peacetime.....And a bow goes to Bob Gillham and his staff for a bang-up publicity, exploitation and advertising campaign that made the public "Going My Way" conscious .....Such a picture not only helps the company that made it but goes a long way in building and holding fans for the motion picture industry as a whole.....**

▼ ▼ ▼

● ● ● ***AVENGE PEARL HARBOR!.....***

...an chapte lon 8 wee 5th wee One more "Par

ere's the most amazing
f all:- Chicago Theatre's
un record doubled with
booking extension after
ross topped the first!
ore reason why so many
xhibitors are saying —

"hount's Going My Way"

War Bulletin!
Have Your Bond Sales Figures Ready
for 5th War Loan Report Blank

$9,000 Over Par Is Tremendous for 3rd Week of 'Way'

PHILADELPHIA, July 20.—The heat wave, creating an exodus to the seashore, held down business at most central city houses. However, two major openings fared well, with "Two Girls and a Sailor" expected to bring the Stanley $24,800 in addition to $3,200 for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. "Going My Way?" continues to lead the field at the Mastbaum, pointing to $31,300 for its third week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 19-21:

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $14,600).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,000).
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $18,000.
"Take It Big" (Para.) (6 days)
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) Six days of vaudeville, including Glen Gray and the Casa Loma Orchestra, Patricia Morison, Jerry Lewis, Carr Bros., Eugenie Baird and Bob Anthony. Gross: $21,700. (Average: $27,600)
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $20,500)
"Up in Arms" (UA)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600).
"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)
KEITH'S—(2,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).
"Going My Way?" (Para.)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $31,300. (Average: $22,500).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,800. (Average: $20,000).
"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $9,400).

Montreal Cools Off, Gives 'Moon' $12,000

MONTREAL, July 20.—With a cooling-off in weather anticipated for the balance of the week here, local managements look to more or less unaffected attendances. Loew's, with "Harvest Moon," expects $12,000 against a $11,500 average, while the Palace, with "Follow the Boys," expects to register an average with $10,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20:

"Heart of a Nation" (French-Graetz)
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Shine on Harvest Moon" (WB)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-45c-63c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000).
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
"Weird Woman" (Univ.)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (27c-34c-47c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500).
"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

SALESMAN

Experienced handling outstanding films metropolitan and upper New York. State qualifications, experience and references. Confidential.

BOX 226
MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Review

"Abroad With Two Yanks"

(Edward Small-United Artists)

EDWARD SMALL'S "Abroad with Two Yanks" is a gay little slapstick production which recounts the rather hilarious experiences of two U. S. Marines while on furlough in Australia with their outfit during a respite from the South Pacific battle zone. Director Allan Dwan has keyed it to provide good clean fun and plenty of hearty laughs as light escapist entertainment. He keeps William Bendix and Dennis O'Keefe, as two gallavanting Marines, stepping from start to finish. Helen Walker is the "Aussie" girl who is their foil and John Loder as her devoted family friend who is secretly in love with her, is the eventual beneficiary of the Yank invasion.

Six writers provided the material. Fred Guiol did the original story; Edward E. Seabook and Tedwell Chapman, the adaptation, and Charles Rogers, Wilkie Mahoney and Ted Sills, the screen play. What the story simmers down to is the hectic attempts of O'Keefe to curry favor with Miss Walker and Bendix's equally hectic attempts to frustrate his strategy and to put Loder in the running once he himself discovers that he does not stand a chance and that Loder does. It all started because Bendix saved Loder's life and Miss Walker was over-zealous in showing her appreciation. Female impersonations, mistaken identity, feigned psycho-neurosis, Bendix's flair for sprouting sonnets and O'Keefe's glib tongue, are but some of the farcical plot elements. An early afternoon audience at Loew's Mayfair Theatre in New York where the film was givn a "sneak" preview yesterday, appeared to enjoy it immensely.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* Release date, August 4.

MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Industry Continues OWI Production

(Continued from page 1)

jects made by the Army or Navy on recent campaigns, such as the "Liberation of Rome," will be released as soon as they are made available to the OWI, Griffis said.

A recent report that Griffis would resign from the OWI post shortly was described by him as "greatly exaggerated." "I intend to stay on the job until the war ends," he declared.

Griffis plans to go to Hollywood Sunday for a four-week stay to confer with studio officials on the production phase of the OWI film program for the coming year. Subjects such as the need for women recruits to the armed forces, manpower problems, war bond appeals, gasoline and paper salvage, the questions of price-fixing and economic stabilization are again to be emphasized in the film messages. Additionally, several films touching on post-war problems, one particularly on the subject of returning soldiers, and another on the work of the United Nations Relief Administration are to be included in the program.

Griffis spoke of his recent trip to Sweden, made at the request of the Foreign Economic Administration in an attempt to persuade Swedish manufacturers to stop exporting ball bearings to Germany. Despite reports, he said, "the mission was reasonably successful. The export of the Swedish ball bearings to the Nazis has been substantially reduced."

After the war, Griffis declared, "I look for tremendous business for American motion picture companies. American films will follow the American flag. They're now going right behind the Army and will continue to do so."

Joseph Schnitzer, 57, Dies on Coast

(Continued from page 1)

dent of the Western Costume Co., here.

Schnitzer, a native of Pittsburgh, entered the industry in 1908 at the age of 20 as manager of the Des Moines branch of the Pittsburgh Calcium Light and Film Co., going from there to the Mullin Film Service, of which he became general sales manager. From 1920 until 1922 he was president of Equity Pictures and then vice-president of Film Booking Offices, predecessor to RKO.

After rising to the RKO presidency, Schnitzer resigned in 1932 to enter independent production, producing "Tomorrow at Seven" the next year. He bought Western Costume in August, 1934.

The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at the Home of Peace Cemetery Chapel.

Surviving are his widow, a daughter, Gloria and a son, Don.

Mrs. A. Moskowitz Dies Here at 80

(Continued from page 1)

Martin Moskowitz, also of 20th, and three daughters, Mrs. Maurice Scopp, Mrs. Jack Harris and Mrs. Irving Snyder. She is also survived by four grandchildren.

The funeral services will take place this morning at 11:15, at Riverside Chapel here.

Mildred Harris, 41, Dies on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—Mildred Harris, actress in the silent-film days and first wife of Charles Spencer Chaplin, comedian, died today of pneumonia, which followed a major operation. She had been ill for three weeks. Her age was 41.

$42,000 for 'Way' And $38,000 for 'Johnny' in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, July 20.—Two houses broke tops for the season with smashing grosses. All others showed strong grosses. Fox hit $42,000 with "Going My Way" and the Warfield was also way up, doing $38,000 with Lena Horne in person and "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore" on the screen.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 18-20:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Minstrel Man" (PRC)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $14,000).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore" (Mono.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $42,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
"Yellow Rose of Texas" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, moveover from the Fox. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $11,000).

'Adventure', Krupa Survive the Heat

BOSTON, July 20.—Downtown theatres suffered terrifically from the unprecedented—for New England—heat wave of the past several days and business was far off in every instance despite good pictures and plenty of exploitation. The strongest shows were "Night Adventure," with Gene Krupa on the stage, at RKO's Boston, for a $30,000 take, and "White Cliffs of Dover," getting $29,500 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 20:

"Night Adventure" (RKO)
RKO BOSTON — (3,200) (55c-85c-$1.10) Plus stage show with Gene Krupa. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $28,300).
"Shine On Harvest Moon" (WB)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (WB)
FENWAY — (1,373) (40c-55c-74c) Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,800).
"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC — (1,350) 12th week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $18,000)
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)
MEMORIAL — (2,900) (55c-65c-74c-95c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $22,000).
"Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (55c-65c-74c-85c). Gross: $22,400. Average: $24,600).
"White Cliffs of Dvoer" (M-G-M)
ORPHEUM — (2,900) (55c-65c-74c-85c). Gross: Gross: $29,500. (Average: $28,300)
"Shine On Harvest Moon" (WB)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (WB)
PARAMOUNT—(1,700) (40c-55c-65c-74c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
STATE — (3,200) (45c-65c-74c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $23,600)

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 15 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JULY 24, 1944 TEN CENTS

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52,000,000 Foot Cut in Film Printing

Release Dates Stand in Raw Stock Crisis

Without upsetting any release dates, the 11 distributing companies will trim their raw film usage by 52,000,000 feet during the current quarter, thus making up, temporarily both for having run 40,000,000 feet over their quotas during the first six months of the year, plus adequately taking care of a situation that arose when the film manufacturers reported a 32,000,000 foot shortage, it was



John J. O'Connor

(*Continued on page 6*)

Dozier, Production Aide to Koerner

William Dozier will join RKO Radio as general production aide to Charles W. Koerner, vice-president in charge of production, it was disclosed here over the weekend by RKO. Dozier will report to the studio on Aug. 21, meanwhile taking a four-week vacation.

In his new capacity, Dozier, it is understood, will act as general production adviser and will supervise all story purchases and be in charge of

(*Continued on page 6*)

$250,000 'Wilson' Promotion Ready

One of the biggest advertising campaigns to be given a motion picture in several years will be accorded Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" by 20th Century-Fox. It is estimated that the entire campaign, under the supervision of Hal Horne, advertising, publicity and exploitation head, will cost about $250,000.

The campaign will include radio broadcasts, posters in railroad and subway stations, buses and trolley cars, as well as ads in national and fan

(*Continued on page 6*)

WMC Is Classifying Jobs for Returnees

Washington, July 23.—Ten thousand types of jobs in the motion picture industry and in other fields, related to military occupational specialties of returning veterans, have been compiled and will soon be used in the 1,500 local offices of the U. S. Employment Service and made available to film and all other employers, Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, discloses here.

The purpose of the report, now on the press, is to indicate how military experience and training of veterans may be utilized in a return to civilian life, McNutt said.

RKO Meeting Here Today

RKO Radio's 13th annual sales meeting will get under way here today at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. More than 400 delegates will be present from the United States and Canada, including home office executives, district and branch managers, salesmen, field exploiteers and representatives from the foreign department, RKO Theatres, the Hollywood studio, Walt Disney Productions, Samuel Goldwyn Productions, International Pictures and RKO Pathe. Following is a list of the delegates:

Home office: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Phil Reisman, Mal-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chicago Likes Its Reissues

CHICAGO, July 23.—Local newspaper film reviewers and columnists are finding a fresh angle for copy in the increased number of reissues now being shown around town. The between-the-lines reader sees an accusing finger pointed at the exhibitor for not ballyhooing the fact he is showing an old picture, when a reissue is advertised.

Exhibitors, on the other hand, feel that a picture that has not been in circulation for a number of years reaches a new market and its appeal should not be marred by using the words 'old' or 'reissue.' Nothing in the advertising matter of trailers is used to mislead the public that it is a new picture—although billing matter is altered to feature the stars according to their current popularity.

Exhibitors also state that no complaints have been made by their patrons after seeing recent reissues. Oscar Brotman, manager of the Avaloe Theater, which plays as many reissues as are available, points out that his patrons enjoy reissues more than new 'B' product and that he has yet to receive a single complaint because he failed to advertise them as old pictures.

Most ads sell reissues as 'the greatest of all gangster films,' ("Dead End"), 'one of the best screen thrillers' ("Frisco Kid"), 'one of the finest outdoor romances ever filmed' ("Heart of the North"), etcetera.

In heavy demand are musical romances, such as "Naughty Marietta" and "Rose Marie," but no prints are available.

The press, by and large, is in favor of reissues, comparing the better films to stage successes which play return engagements seasonally.

'Free Movie Day' Repeats To Aid Extended Drive

Hundreds of theatres this week will stage "repeat engagements" of "Free Movie Day" and "War Bond Premieres," working up to the last minute of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign on July 27.

In numerous situations, committees have set plans for state-wide or local events aimed to add additional millions of dollars to the drive total, The events are designed for the sale of "E" Bonds, thereby responding to the Treasury's request to further the sale of war financing securities to individuals.

"Committee chairmen are urging exhibitors to exert their utmost so that the maximum possible number of sales can be reported to the National Committee when the report cards are mailed on the night of Thursday, July 27," a statement from the industry's "Fighting Fifth" headquarters here reported over the weekend.

What is expected to develop the largest day's sale of "E" Bonds in the state of Texas will be held on Thursday, the final day of the extended industry drive, when Texas theatres will again stage "Free Movie Day," John Q. Adams, exhibitor state chairman, has advised national chairman R. J. O'Donnell.

Rank's Films First to UA, Then on Own

Two-Year Deal Is Due In the Near Future

By TOM LOY

United Artists will handle the U. S. and Latin American distribution of the bulk of J. Arthur Rank's British films, under terms of a contract expected to be signed within the next three weeks, it was learned here at the weekend.

But the arrangement is only a temporary one, for two years, after which Eagle-Lion will set up its own distribution system. The manpower shortage and the scarcity of exchange facilities has made the stop-gap plan necessary. The U.A. deal was arranged by Arthur W. Kelly, president of Eagle-Lion Films here.

Final details will be worked out, it is understood by John Davis, man-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sears in London, Confers with Rank

LONDON, July 23.—Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists' vice-president in charge of distribution, arrived here at the weekend from New York, accompanied by robot flying bombs, and held a two-hour conference with J. Arthur Rank, who postponed a long-arranged vacation in order to meet him. They were joined later by David H. Coplan, temporary head of UA in Great Britain, in talks, still described here as "exploratory," looking to UA Ameri-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Griffiths UK Head For International

David Griffiths, in London, has been appointed International Pictures' representative for the United Kingdom, it was disclosed here by International over the weekend. He will make his headquarters in London.

Griffiths was formerly managing director for First National Pictures in Great Britain and is at present associated with Ealing Studios. He will assume his post on Aug. 1, working with Robert Wolff, managing director for RKO Radio in the United Kingdom.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, returned at the weekend from California.

•

MR. AND MRS. RICHARD PEFFLEY are the parents of a baby boy born July 17. PEFFLEY is manager of the Paramount and Strand theatres in Fremont, O., and is scheduled to leave for the Navy Aug. 21.

•

CHARLES W. KOERNER, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production, and PERRY LIEBER, studio publicity manager, will arrive in New York today from California.

•

HENRY L. NATHANSON, president of Regal Films, and TED J. GOULD, general sales manager, are due from Toronto tomorrow for M-G-M home office conferences.

•

HERBERT SCHRANK, attorney for IATSE Local 306, will return from a vacation today.

•

GRACE GOLDBERG, secretary to JACOB WILK at Warner Bros., left at the weekend for her annual vacation.

•

SAM KESTENBAUM, PRC exploitation director, will leave for New Haven today.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec vice-president, is vacationing with his family at Nantucket Islandd.

State Tribute to Harris and Industry

Al Sherman, former film publicist here, and publicity consultant to the Royal Norwegian Government, returned to Washington over the weekend after a meeting with Ken Hoel, Harris Amusement's publicity director, and Glendon Allvine, secretary to the Eastern Public Relations Information Bureau, on plans for the launching of the *S.S. John P. Harris,* scheduled to take place in mid-August.

A state-wide celebration in Pennsylvania of the 50th anniversary of motion pictures and of the late Senator Harris' contribution to the film industry as the founder of one of the first "Nickelodeons" is being planned in connection with the launching. Mrs. John P. Harris, widow of the Senator, will officiate at the shipyard ceremonies.

Jacocks Takes Over Five Boston Houses

BOSTON, July 23.—Don Jacocks, who recently resigned as Warner zone manager in Newark, has arrived here to assume operation of five Levenson theatres in this area.

Houses which Jacocks will supervise are: Coolidge Corner and Village in Brookline; Strand, Quincy and Alhambra, in Quincy.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ATTENTION to the industry and its people in the public prints has been remarkably favorable for quite a spell now and, having been taught over the years not to expect too much of that sort of thing, it may be said that the industry is duly appreciative at the moment, even though it may be wondering the while from just what direction that next brickbat will be heaved.

Even now there are signs that the current honeymoon may soon be over. Not the least of them is the recent obviously inspired attack of "Cissie" Patterson's *Washington Times-Herald* on 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson," a picture which no one associated with that paper could have seen. Yet in attributing political significance to the picture the paper endeavors to endow it with controversial aspects, particularly in a time of Presidential campaigns, which could have repercussions involving the entire industry.

Darryl F. Zanuck, the picture's producer, assured a press conference during his last visit to New York that the picture was not controversial. Presumably, then, that, at least, was the intention. Whether or not political significance can be read into the picture remains to be seen. It is unfair, if not dishonest, to attack the film on such grounds before it has been seen by the attackers.

Of course, what the *Washington Times-Herald* did was to spotlight the picture for all the "antis"—particularly those who are anti-motion picture industry—to place them in readiness to loose the familiar mudslinging and muckraking in the event that it does develop that anything in the picture conceivably might support the paper's presently unfounded charges and intimations. Should that occur, the industry's honeymoon with the press will surely be marred by quite a bit of generalized name-calling and badly-aimed chinaware, such as it has suffered or dodged so often in the past. For the attack will not be restricted to a specific picture nor a specific company, if experience is a guide. It will, rather, disembalm old and unrelated grievances and scandals of a personal variety in the deliberate attempt to castigate "Hollywood," by which the public prints mean the motion picture industry.

And if nothing is to be found in "Wilson" on which to base the old familiar, periodical attack, you can be sure a substitute for it will be found sooner or later by the presently impotent industry-haters. Their impatience is their weakness. It makes them obvious.

•

In other quarters, too, there are evidences that the cordiality and respect that has been given motion pictures for quite some time is on the wane. Here and there with increasing frequency film critics who have been writing reviews as though they were aware of what film-goers would like to know about the new pictures, are returning to the old-style exhibitionism which is designed mainly to demonstrate what a clever fellow the reviewer is—how much brighter, more entertaining and, certainly, more devastating, he is than the producers of the films about which he writers. It is as though some of them suddenly awakened to the fact that they had been writing of motion pictures as though they like them as much as the majority of their readers do, and, ashamed and angry at having been taken in by a succession of good pictures, set out deliberately to correct whatever impression they might have so created by pulling out all the stops in lambasting the weaker pictures, adopting a patronizing attitude toward the good ones and magnifying picayune weaknesses in the fine ones. The main idea, of course, being to convince themselves and a few of their contemporaries that they are not to be confused with the dumb masses who like the movies, while overlooking the fact that all of their readers, combined, comprise a segment, however small, of the masses who like the movies and for whom they are employed to write.

For example, the current *New Yorker* "reviews" a picture in the following words: "'Jungle Woman' features a girl called Acquanetta, whose right name I would help her conceal even if I knew it." Nothing more than that is said about the picture. Obviously, no one looking to that reviewer for information about the picture has been satisfied. Why, then, was mention made of the picture at all? Presumably to demonstrate what a "card" that John Lardner is, even if he isn't a movie fan or, for that matter, a reviewer.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 23

JACK L. WARNER, executive producer for Warner Bros., has renewed the contract of Irving Rapper, director. Rapper is now doing "The Corn Is Green" starring Bette Davis.

•

M-G-M purchased "Touch of Heaven," an original, to star Margaret O'Brien. Ralph Wheelwright has been asigned to produce it.

•

Columbia signed Paul Muni to star in "Counterattack." Zoltan Korda will direct.

•

20th-Fox signed Johnny Walker, stage producer, as associate producer in Bryan Foy's department.

•

The funeral for Mildred Harris, who died last week, will take place tomorrow and will be private.

Coming Events

Today through Wednesday, July 24-26—RKO Sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Through July 27—Extended theatre drive for Fifth War Loan.

Aug. 15 — Filing date for financial statements of unions, guilds and other non-profit organizations.

Leserman Presides In Cleveland Today

CLEVELAND, July 23.—With the arrival here tomorrow of Carl Leserman, United Artists' general sales manager, and Harry Gold, Eastern division manager, the second in a series of combined regional district meetings, this one for the Midwest territory, will get underway immediately today at the Statler Hotel.

The two-day meeting will be attended by company branch managers and salesmen in the territory supervised by district manager Jack D. Goldhar, embracing Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, and Pittsburgh.

SPU Briefs Postponed

HOLLYWOOD, July 23.—On request of the Screen Players Union, counsel for the National Labor Relations Board has postponed to Aug. 6 the date for filing briefs in the case which seeks leave to set up extra players organization separate from the Screen Actors Guild.

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Greetings

RKO SALES MEETING

My very best wishes to the executives and members of the sales, advertising and exploitation forces on this occasion ▪ Sincere thanks to you all for your fine efforts during the past year ▪ They are deeply appreciated ▪ We shall enjoy another year of rich satisfaction together ▪

Sincerely,

Samuel Goldwyn

Greetings!

TO

NED E. DEPINET

and every Salesman, Exploiteer,

Branch Manager, Division

Manager and Executive at the

1944-45 RKO Convention!

IN SINCERE APPRECIATION

of your fine enthusiasm

and splendid cooperation!

Edward A. Golden

Robert S. Golden

EDWARD A. GOLDEN
productions

1943
HITLER'S CHILDREN

1944
THE MASTER RACE

Produced by ROBERT S. GOLDEN

with

GEORGE COULOURIS • STANLEY RIDGES • OSA MASSEN
CARL ESMOND • NANCY GATES • MORRIS CARNOVSKY
PAUL GUILFOYLE • HELEN BEVERLY • GAVIN MUIR
HELENE THIMIG • LLOYD BRIDGES • HERBERT RUDLEY
RICHARD NUGENT • LOUIS DONATH

☆ ☆ ☆

Directed by HERBERT J. BIBERMAN • Screen Play by
Herbert J. Biberman, Anne Froelick and Rowland Leigh
Director of Photography . . . Russell Metty, A. S. C.

RKO RADIO PICTURES

52,000,000 Foot Cut in Film Printing

(*Continued from page* 1)

stated here yesterday by John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, who helped work out details of the conservation plan.

The emergency will be met, O'Connor explained, by running off prints closer to release dates than is customary, thus giving Eastman Kodak Co., time to refurbish its machinery and allow vacations to its employes, both of which had been worked to exhaustion during the past two years.

Eastman's problem was laid before a special meeting of the company presidents here recently by Harold Hopper, retiring head of the War Production Board's film division, and Lincoln V. Burroughs, his successor, who explained that, although there was no material shortage, the output of film available for printing would be 62,000,000 feet below the quota for this quarter, O'Connor said. Partly offsetting this lack, however, arrangements were made for a 15,000,000-foot increase from Ansco and a like amount from DuPont.

Word reaching here from WPB spokesmen in Washington indicates that, while there was a satisfactory inventory on hand at the beginning of the quarter, the invasion of France brought new demands on the manufacturers, with England unable to carry its share of the export program, thus necessitating a further dip into U. S. supplies to furnish raw stock to foreign countries with which England had contracts, and for war filming.

Hollywood studios are expected to regain their full allotments next quarter, when production may be greater and the military demands may be less pressing; but there is little expectation at this time that, barring an early collapse of Germany, that any quota increase will be possible this year, the WPB spokesmen added.

$250,000 'Wilson' Promotion Ready

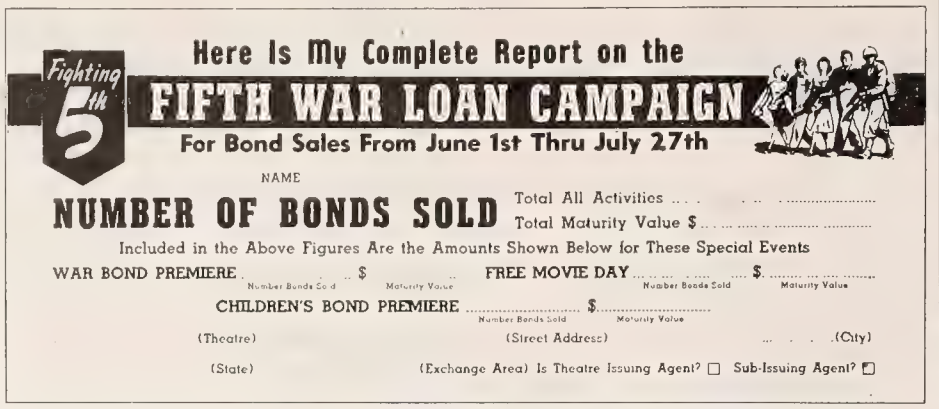
(*Continued from page* 1)

magazines and daily and weekly newspapers and other publications. The "Wilson" ads have started to make their appearance with the July editions of many national magazines, and to date 44 national publications, with estimated circulations of 38,000,000, are scheduled to carry full-page advertisements during the month.

The campaign is limited only by newspaper advertising space restrictions, but, in lineage, it will exceed the newspaper ad campaign conducted on "The Song of Bernadette." In addition to the regular dailies, full-page ads will appear in the Sunday magazine sections of the New York papers with a total circulation of 5,312,629.

Archibald Will Stay

LONDON, July 23.—George Archibald has denied reports, published here, that he soon would leave the Ministry of Information's films division to join J. Arthur Rank's producing organization. Archibald said his war job is for the duration.



Exhibitors' Report for 5th

Above is a facsimile of the final report which the industry's national Fifth War Loan committee asks exhibitors to fill out completely and mail to national committee headquarters in New York on the night of July 27.

The national committee stresses that "it is vitally important that every exhibitor make out this report and return it promptly." Business reply cards on which this report blank is printed are being sent to all.

Hits Tactics In Selling of Shorts

Some film salesmen are accused of linking the sale of new season's short subjects to action by their companies on exhibitor applications for film rental adjustments, in a statement issued at the weekend by Sidney Samuelson, general manager of Allied I. T. O. of Eastern Pennsylvania. The statement follows:

"Many members of Allied, and other independent exhibitors, have complained that several major distributing companies are now selling the full season of 1944-45 short subjects far in advance of their feature product. Furthermore, some salesmen are making statements that only those exhibitors who 'cooperate' with the distributing companies by buying the shorts will receive consideration on adjustments long overdue. Inasmuch as most major distributors, through their responsible officials, have publicly stated that they always stand ready to take care of exhibitors who are 'hurt' by their deals, the current situation is incomprehensible. Either the home office executives do not know what their field representatives are doing, or else exhibitors have been misled by these promises.

"Obviously any serious effort to sell short subjects at this time can only be an attempt to evade the terms and violate the spirit of the consent decree. Allied has in its hands several complaints which are being investigated and, if found accurate, will be submitted to the proper authorities."

Dozier, Production Aide to Koerner

(*Continued from page* 1)

writers and writers' assignments. It is also contemplated that he will handle a few important production assignments personally, in addition to assisting Koerner with the entire studio product.

Long in production, Dozier goes to RKO from Paramount, where he has served in production for the past three years. Previously, he was associated with the Berg-Allenberg Agency of Hollywood.

Owners Describe 'True Partnership'

CINCINNATI, July 23.—Claiming that independent exhibitors are operating on practically a non-profit basis, because, it is claimed, distributors are limiting and controlling exhibitors' profits through curtailment of product, creating a sellers' market, increasing allocations and placing program pictures in percentage brackets, the Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors Association, declares in a bulletin, terming this "industry domination" as "a subterfuge to confiscate the other fellow's profits, because distributors have been stopped from acquiring theatres."

"Up to now, because of the startling reality," the bulletin continues, "no one has been able to point out clearly and positively to the government and the masses of exhibitors what has actually happened. Even the distributors in their mad scramble for domination have been unconscious of victimizing the independent exhibitors to the extent they have.

"If distributors must limit and control the independent theatre profits, they should be obliged to underwrite exhibitors' losses, the way of a true partnership," the bulletin suggests as a remedy.

French - Canadian Film Under Way

MONTREAL, July 23. — Renaissance Films is ready to shoot "Le Pere Chopin," in its Ville St. Laurent studios. The Russian director Fedor Ozet has come to Montreal from Hollywood to make the picture with Marcel Chabrier, Francois Rozet, Paul Cambo and Madeleine Ozeray.

Other French pictures are planned as well as a version of the Russian hero, Stanka Razin.

Brauer Named Manager

CLEVELAND, July 23.—Edwin Brauer, Republic salesman here, has been named manager of the company's branch at Indianapolis. Prior to joining Republic, Brauer was branch manager for Paramount here.

Rank's Films First to UA, Then on Own

(*Continued from page* 1)

aging director of Odeon Theatres, who arrived in Montreal from London late last week on behalf of Rank, and the actual signing will take place in London, with Gradwell L. Sears, UA distribution vice-president, representing that company. Sears is now in England. Upon completion of an extended Canadian tour, Davis will visit the United States. However, it is understood that Kelly will meet him in Canada.

The contract under which Paul L. Nathanson of Empire - Universal Films, Ltd., will handle Rank's Canadian distribution, as reported Thursday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, is likewise limited to two years, it has been learned; and plans call for Eagle-Lion to set up its own distribution system there also after the war.

Although rumors widely circulated in May, when Rank and Spyros Skouras signed a joint production agreement, held that 20th-Fox would handle Rank's American distribution, it was learned at the weekend that this applies only to films made cooperatively by the two companies. Originally, Kelly and Eagle-Lion sought a distribution deal with Hal B. Wallis, and when that failed to materialize, other channels were sought, finally leading to the expected UA contract.

First Films Expected

First films expected to be included in the UA deal are "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp," and "A Canterbury Tale," both produced by Emeric Pressburger and Michael Powell; "The Gentle Sex," "Flemish Farm," "Demi-Paradise" and "This Happy Breed," Two-Cities productions; and "The Way Ahead," "Henry the Fifth," "The Navy Way," "The Silver Fleet" and "Dive at Dawn," all Gainsborough pictures. Added later will be Gabriel Pascal's production of Bernard Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra," with Claude Rains and Vivian Leigh, now in work.

A second category of films will be sold here separately by Eagle-Lion, probably to a distributing company other than UA. These, it is said, produced at a cost of between $400,000 and $500,000 each, fall midway between the American "A" and "B" classifications. They are described as having "terrific story value but not so much star pull." Earliest arrivals in this class, all from Gainsborough, will be "Dear Octopus," "Hi, Gang," "Hard Steel," "King Arthur, Gentleman," "On Approval" and "Time Flies."

Sears in London Confers with Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

can distribution of Rank's films.

Spokesmen for Rank stated after the meeting that the overtures had arisen with UA, and Rank himself said he welcomed any adequate aid that could be given in the distribution of his product in the U. S.

'U', Para. News Set New Union Pacts

Negotiations have been completed between Universal and representatives of Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL, for a new contract covering some 200 Universal home office "white collarites," it was learned here yesterday. The contract is scheduled to be signed next week and will then be submitted to the regional War Labor Board for approval.

The new agreement, replacing a previous agreement which Universal had with an American Federation of Office Employees local which MPOE took over in April of this year, will run for two years, with provision for reopening after one year for wage adjustments. It sets up some 35 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales similar to those which MPOE has set for Warner Bros. home office and subsidiary "white collarites," and provides for new workers to join the local within 90 days after their employment and present union members to maintain membership in the union in good standing. Provisions of the agreement are retroactive to June 1 of this year.

MPOE has also set an agreement with representatives of Paramount News covering about 22 "white collarites" in the company's New York office. The contract provides for a 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943, and is for one year. It also provides for a closed shop and sets up 11 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales.

Para. Sets Plans for 'Frisco Premiere

The world premiere of Paramount's "I Love a Soldier," starring Paulette Goddard and Sonny Tufts, will be held Aug. 15 at the Fox Theatre in San Francisco, site of the picture's plot. Plans were made over the weekend by B. D. Sturdivant, general manager for Fox West Coast Theatres in Northern California; Herman Kersken and Fay Reeder of the Fox organization; H. Neal East, Paramount's San Francisco branch manager, and Lew Lewellen, who handles special events for R. M. Gillham, Paramount's director of advertising and publicity. Paramount will send some of the players in the picture and other film personalities to San Francisco to attend the premiere.

Fete Peggy deGrau

Paramount home office distribution department associates of Peggy deGrau tendered her a farewell luncheon at the Hotel Lincoln here on Friday, and presented her with a wrist watch. Miss deGrau, who handled the contract approval department, has resigned after 27 years with Paramount to assume a similar post with Vanguard Pictures.

Campaign for WB Short

"Devil Boats," two-reel service special produced by Warners with the cooperation of the Navy, will be given national advertising by Elco, which makes 'P-T' boats, and Packard Motors, which supplies the motors. The campaign will be designed to give exhibitors an opportunity to tie-in with local Elco and Packard distributors.

400 Delegates at RKO Convention Here Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

colm Kingsberg, Robert Mochrie, Walter E. Branson, Nat Levy, Harry J. Michalson, William H. Clark, S. Barret McCormick, Gordon E. Youngman, J. Miller Walker, Garrett Van Wagner.

Also from the home office: Al Adams, Leon J. Bamberger, J. Bellfort, Arthur M. Brilant, J. Emmet Cashman, William E. Dahler, A. W. Dawson, Walter V. Derham, Frank Drumm, John A. Farmer, Lou E. Gaudreau, Richard Gavin, Harry Gittleson, Dacid Goldman, Ben Grimm, Harold Hendee, Henry Holms, William Horne, H. Horton, Sidney Kramer, S. Landau, Jack Level, Harry Levine, Charles Levy, Clarence McGeary, Edward J. McGuire, Oliver R. McMahon, William J. McShea, Milton Maier, Marty Monroe, Lou H. Miller, Francis J. Mooney, Carl Moss, Vivian Moses, Rutgers Neilson.

Also: Thomas O'Connor, Harry M. Pimstein, Michael G. Poller, Jack Quirk, J. E. Redmond, A. E. Reoch, Fred Schaefer, A. A. Schubart, David L. Strumpf, Major L. E. Thompson, Terry Turner, Kenneth Umbreit, Charles Wagner, J. H. Walters, Herbert E. Wappaus, Emanuel Waxburg, Arthur White, Arthur Willi, Lewis Wolf, William Zimmerman.

Studio: Charles W. Koerner and Perry Lieber.

District managers: Charles Boasberg, Ben Y. Cammack, Robert J. Folliard, L. E. Goldhammer, J. H. MacIntyre, Bernard G. Kranze, David Prince, Gus Schaefer, R. V. Nolan, and division manager Leo M. Devaney, Toronto.

Theatre Delegates

RKO Theatres: J. Becker, James Brennan, John A. Cassidy, J. DiLorenzo, M. Edelstein, H. R. Emde, William England, A. Frudenfeld, J. Golden, E. Groth, J. C. Herns, W. Howard, William E. Kernan, J. King, D. Levin, Vincent Liguori, Ray Malone, Harry Mandel, Hardie Meakin, Harold Mirisch, I. Morais, H. Mosley, Charles B. McDonald, M. Polon, Clem Pope, J. Redmond, L. Schine, M. Schine, H. Schreiber, Sol Schwartz, M. Sherman, W. Slater, F. Smith, S. Torgan, H. Unterfort, S. Wexo, M. White, Al Zimbalist.

Foreign department: Ralph Doyle, Harry Ehrreich, M. Gomez, F. Gulbransen, R. K. Hawkinson, Michael Hoffey, Jack Kennedy, Vladimir Lissim, P. Saenz, Cuba.

RKO Pathe: Walton Ament, Jay Bonafield, Dudley Hale, A. J. Butterfield, Frederic Ullman, Jr.

Walt Disney Productions: Roy Disney, Verne Caldwell, Kay Kamen, William Levy, W. Lowenberg, Leo Samuels, F. Waldheim, James Finey.

Samuel Goldwyn Productions: James Mulvey, H. Archinal, Lester Rawson, Mort Nathanson, W. Heineman, J. Sayers.

International Pictures: A. Schwalberg, Robert Goldstein, Tom Fizdale, Arthur Jeffrey, Ben Schectman.

RKO Television: Ralph B. Austrian, Thomas H. Hutchinson.

National Screen Service: Herman Robbins, George Dembow, Don Velde.

L. Hyman, representing Sol Lesser Productions, and Seymour Poe.

Press committee: Rutgers Neilson, Robert Boehnel, Arthur Brilant, Florence Cahill, Jack Lewis, Betty McKelvey, Rosalie Ross, Irving Shiffrin, Russell Trado.

Guests: Merlin H. Aylesworth, Al Barlow, Frank Buck, G. E. Eyssell, Frank Eaton, Dr. G. Gallup, William Gengenbach, Edward A. Golden, Eugene Harrington, John Hertz, Jr., George Leisure, T. Martell, Albert Sindlinger, Buck Singer, M. Smith, Howard Worden, James Young.

Field exploiteers: David Cantor, Robert Hickey, Harry Reiners, P. Bathory, H. Bert, Fred Calvin, L. Carroll, George Degnon, Fred Ford, G. Gaudette, Maurice Harris, W. Heim, E. Holland, C. Kinney, T. B. McCormick, Al O'Camp, W. Prager, Don Prince, Robert Pryor, E. Rowland, J. A. Simons, A. E. Waltrip.

Branch managers and salesmen (managers named first in each instance): Albany: Max Westebbe, George Tucker, Harold J. Carlock; Atlanta: Hubert M. Lyons, Frank W. Salley, Paul Harrison, R. C. Price, James D. Campbell, Byron S. Bryan; Boston: Ross C. Cropper, William H. Gardiner, Harry F. Goldstein, D. W. Grover, Carma L. DeVizia, Melville M. Ames, William J. Cuddy; Buffalo: Elmer Lux, John G. Chinell, Edwin J. Smith, Sr.; Charlotte: Rovy F. Branon, Fred E. Dyer, James W. Sims, R. S. Mitchell; Chicago: Sam Gorelick, Harold W. Evens, Michael Kassel, Joe Cozzi, John J. Clark, Seymour Borde, Harry S. Lorch; Cincinnati: Stanley C. Jacques, M. S. Cummins, Joseph A. McKnight, Ross Williams, Jack Frisch, John G. Furrer; Cleveland: Albert L. Kolitz, Arthur Goldsmith, Robert R. Richardson, Frank E. Belles; Dallas: Sol M. Sachs, Clarence J. Wheeler, Clarence B. Wilson, Harold J. Malone, Jack Schumpert, Francis W. Paris.

Additional Guests

Also: Denver: Tom H. Bailey, Frank L. Childs, E. M. Gwin, Marvin Goldfarb; Des Moines: Lou Elman, W. F. DeFrenne, Wm. B. Benjamin, R. B. Behymer; Detroit: Milton E. Cohen, B. Zimner, G. W. Sampson, M. Milholland, F. Jones; Indianapolis: Maurice E. Lefko, Russell L. Brentlinger, Peter J. Fortune, Herman Black: Kansas City: A. A. Renfro, Earl L. Dyson, E. M. Block, L. O. Ringler, George W. Hinton; Los Angeles: Harry C. Cohen, Joseph Rubenstein, Jos. F. Samuels, H. Levinson, R. H. Lange; Memphis: Al M. Avery, W. Grover Wray, Leonard Shea, R. V. Reagin; Milwaukee: Art N. Schmitz, Morris Anderson, Wm. J. Foley, R. W. Baker, Joe Imhof.

Also: Minneapolis: C. J. Dressell, Wm. C. Winters, Irving Gillman, M. A. Lipsner, Robert P. Ableson, E. J. Straley, W. S. Bjorkman; New Haven: Barney Pitkin, William Canelli, M. Salzberg; New Orleans: J. R. Lamantia, Wm. Shiell, Jr., Milton L. Stevens, C. Riley; New York: Phil Hodes, E. T. Carroll, J. J. Dacey, Lou I. Kutinsky, Harry Zeitels, Charles Penser; Oklahoma City: R. B. Williams, Paul D. Fielding, Leo Craiker, D. Wm. Snider, Jr., J. Whitesel; Omaha: Karl G. Howe, M. M. Rosenblatt, John W. Andrews, William Barker; Philadelphia: Charles Zagrans, Sam Lefko, Michael Shulman, J. J. McFadden, Jr., Ely J. Epstein, V. O'Donnell.

Also: Pittsburgh: Herb H. Greenblatt, I. T. Sweeney, David C. Silverman, Irving I. Frankel, J. Judd, M. Wolfish; Portland: Mark E. Cory, Clarence Bastien, George Jackson; St. Louis: Tom Williamson, G. J. Pisani, Patrick F. Byrne, M. Raymon, L. V. Norton; Salt Lake City: Gifford Davison, George H. Warren, Sam Appelman, R. H. Hoese, James D. Griffin; San Francisco: Newt P. Jacobs, George R. Seach, Earl A. Stein, Charles J. Crowley, H. Bradley Fish, O. H. Watson.

Also: Seattle: Ed A. Lamb, Louis L. Goldsmith, Floyd J. Heninger; Sioux Falls: Sherman W. Fitch, E. A. Moe, Steve Hollander; Washington: Joe B. Brecheen, Harry E. Kahn, E. W. Grover, Al Folliard, O. Knox, C. Hildebrand; Calgary: R. Doddridge; Montreal: H. F. Taylor, J. Dorfman, S. H. Decker; St. John: H. H. McArthur; Toronto: Mark Plottel, Meyer Nackimson, Joseph Bermack; Vancouver: Wm. Spencer Jones; Winnipeg: Joseph H. McPherson, Robert Radis.

To Organize Writers Of the Americas

MEXICO CITY, July 23.—A plan to organize the film writers of the U. S., Argentina, Mexico, Brazil and Cuba in an effort to raise their pay and "for greater protection of their interests" is being outlined by Homero Manzi, Argentina scenarist and author, on a visit here.

Formation of what Manzi calls "a continental bloc from Hollywood to Buenos Aires" is sought to level off a condition said to find Mexican scenarists among the poorest paid and those of Argentina among the highest.

Fauker, Booth to M-G-M Conferences

M-G-M branch managers Foster Fauker, Indianapolis, and Edward M. Booth, Cincinnati, have arrived in New York for a week of conferences with home office executives.

Sam Gardner, of Salt Lake City, and Lou Amacher, of Portland, have completed their visits and have returned to their posts, while Maurice Saffle of Seattle and Louis G. Wingham of San Francisco will leave within a few days.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, July 23

BILLY DE WOLFE, comedian who made his screen debut in "Dixie," has been discharged from the Navy and will return to the screen in "Miss Susie Slagle's," which John Houseman will soon produce for Paramount. De Wolfe will portray a young medical student. Sonny Tufts and Joan Caulfield will have two of the top romantic roles in the picture. . . . Marjorie Rambeau has been signed for a featured role in Monogram's forthcoming comedy, "Army Wives." . . . Henry Stephenson, Joan Winfield and Richard Nugent have been added to the cast of "Of Human Bondage," which Henry Blanke is producing at the Warner studio.

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Lee Tracy will return to the screen in the top masculine role of RKO Radio's story of Japanese espionage, "Betrayal from the East." Nancy Kelly will play opposite him. . . . Irving Cummings will direct "The Dolly Sisters" for 20th Century-Fox, replacing John M. Stahl. The picture co-stars Betty Grable and Alice Faye. George Jessel is the producer. . . . John Emery is set for one of the top roles in David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . Louis Carter has been handed the second lead in the untitled romance comedy starring Irene Dunne and Charles Boyer, which is currently in wor kat Columbia.

•

Carlos Riano has been appointed dialogue director for the department in charge of making Spanish-dubbed versions of Universal pictures. . . . Director Fred Wilcox has returned from a trip to the State of Washington during which he selected location sites for "Hold High the Torch," which Robert Sisk will produce for M-G-M. . . . Ed Beloin, former Jack Benny writer, has been added to the writing staff on "Lady on a Train," Deanna Durbin's next vehicle for Universal.

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Jerry Fairbanks has signed Lou Lilly, animated cartoon expert, to a long term contract as production manager for the Paramount-released short series, "Speaking of Animals." . . . Leading roles in "China Sky" have been assigned to Randolph Scott, Ruth Warrick and Ellen Drew.

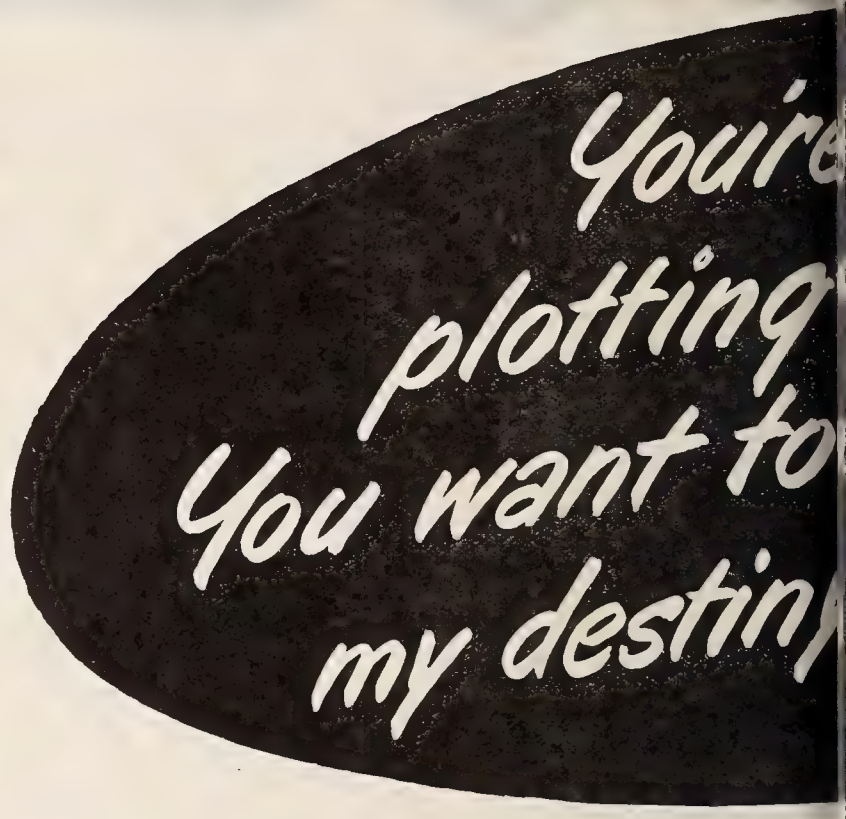
Drought Darkens Theatre Outlook

Louisville, July 23.—Exhibitors in some quarters are expressing considerable concern over the effect on theatre business occasioned by the prolonged drought, reported the worst in 25 years. Scores of farmers, their crops practically ruined, are applying to the U. S. Employment Service for work in local industries.

It is still too early to foretell what the reaction will be, but many theatremen hereabouts are none too optimistic over the box-office outlook.

BOMB INJU





You Said It, Adolf.

The Hitl

NEVER A MORE TIMELY.

Written by Fra

RES HITLER

all
against me!...
etray me!.. That's
BETRAYAL!



In Paramount's

er Gang

.TIME TO PLAY IT

Executive Producer
B. G. DeSYLVA
Directed by
JOHN FARROW

drich and Albert Hackett

War Bulletin!
Have Your Bond Sales Figures Ready
for 5th War Loan Report Blank

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
June 24	**SHE'S A SOLDIER, TOO** Beulah Bondi Nina Foch Jess Barker D—67 mins. (5040)	**(Seventh Block)** **ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE** Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) **GASLIGHT** Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) **MEET THE PEOPLE** Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) **THREE MEN IN WHITE** Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427) **TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR** Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)	**RETURN OF THE APE MAN** Bela Lugosi John Carradine 60 mins. D—(319) **RANGE LAW** Johnny Mack Brown O—57 mins (355) **JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE** Simone Simon James Ellison D—79 mins. (304) **ARE THESE OUR PARENTS?** Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot D—73 mins. (305) **THREE OF A KIND** Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C—67 mins. (323)	**(Fifth Block)** **AND THE ANGELS SING** Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321) **DOUBLE INDEMNITY** Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins.(4325) **THE HITLER GANG** Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323) **HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID** Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322) **GAMBLER'S CHOICE** Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)		**YELLOW ROSE OF TEXAS** Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—(343) 69 mins.	**(Fifth Block)** **THE FALCON OUT WEST** Tom Conway Barbara Hale D—64 mins. (421) **DAYS OF GLORY** Tamara Toumanova Gregory Peck D—86 mins. (422) **THE YELLOW CANARY (British)** Anna Neagle Richard Greene D—84 mins. (423) **SEVEN DAYS ASHORE** Wally Brown Gordon Oliver C—74 mins. (424) **SHOW BUSINESS** Eddie Cantor Joan Davis George Murphy Constance Moore M—92 mins. (425)		**SENSATIONS OF 1945** Eleanor Powell Dennis O'Keefe M—85 mins.	**SOUTH OF DIXIE** Anne Gwynne David Bruce D—61 mins. (8043)	**THIS IS THE ARMY** (Re-issue) George Murphy Joan Leslie M—(224) 115 mins. (Color)
July 1					**MINSTREL MAN** Benny Fields Gladys George Roscoe Karns O—69 mins. (404)	**MAN FROM FRISCO** Michael O'Shea D—91 mins. (318) **CALL OF THE SOUTH SEAS** D—59 mins. (319) **MARSHALL OF RENO** Wild Bill Elliott O—56 mins. (3312)				**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY** Deanna Durbin Gene Kelly D—93 mins. (8002)	**THE MASK OF DIMITRIOS** Peter Lorre Sidney Greenstreet Zachary Scott D—95 mins. (318)
July 8	**LOUISIANA HAYRIDE** Judy Canova Ross Hunter C—(5019)					**CALL OF THE ROCKIES** Smiley Burnette Sonny Carson O—56 mins. (356)		(July Releases—no definite date set) **ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER** Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)	**SUMMER STORM** George Sanders Linda Darnell D—107 mins.	**TRIGGER TRAIL** O—(8086) **JUNGLE WOMAN** Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins. (8018) **THE MUMMY'S GHOST** Lon Chaney D—61 mins. (8039)	
July 15	**SECRET COMMAND** Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5008)				**FUZZY SETTLES DOWN** Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—60 mins. (416) **SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH** D—(417) **BRAND OF THE DEVIL** O—(458) **MACHINE GUN MAMA** Armida C—(421)	**COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN** (reissue) Gene Autry O—(3305) **SILVER CITY KID** Allan Lane O—55 mins. (461)					(Re-issues) **MANPOWER** 103 mins. (341) **TIGER SHARK** 79 mins. (345) **THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL** 92 mins. (342)
July 22						**SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD** D—68 mins. (321) **3 LITTLE SISTERS** Ruth Terry Mary Lee Cheryl Walker D—69 mins. (325)	(Special release) **ATTACK!** (Documentary) 56 mins.			**TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE** Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin M—62 mins. (8045)	**THE WALKING DEAD** 66 mins. (344) **BROTHER RAT** 89 mins. (343) **POLO JOE** 65 mins. **(346)**
July 29	**MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR** E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D	**(Eighth Block)** (incomplete) **BATHING BEAUTY** Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (Color) **CANTERVILLE GHOST** Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins.		**(Sixth Block)** **HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO** Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. **TAKE IT BIG** Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. **THE GREAT MOMENT** Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. **HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET** Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. **I LOVE A SOLDIER** Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins.		**SONG OF NEVADA** Roy Rogers D—75 mins. (399) **GIRL WHO DARED** Lorna Gray D—56 mins. (322) **PORT OF 40 THIEVES** Stephanie Bachelor Richard Powers D—58 mins. (324)	**MARINE RAIDERS** Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427) **A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE** Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428) **STEP LIVELY** Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429) **YOUTH RUNS WILD** Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)		**ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS** William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe	**ALLERGIC TO LOVE** Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	(Regular Release) **ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN** Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
Aug. 5			**WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE** Johnny Mack Brown (356)		**DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS** June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)						
Aug. 12	**CRY OF THE WEREWOLF** Nina Foch Stephen Crane D		**MARKED TRAILS** Hoot Gibson O—59 mins. (366)							**TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT** Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	**MR. SKEFFINGTON** Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 19	**KANSAS CITY KITTY** Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C	(Special Release) **DRAGON SEED** Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins.	**CALL OF THE JUNGLE** Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)				(Special Release) **GOYESCAS** Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	(August Releases—No definite date set) **TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT** Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. **WING AND A PRAYER** Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins.			
Aug. 26	**SWING IN THE SADDLE** Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O		**LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH** James Dunn 61 mins. (325)	(Special Release) **GOING MY WAY** Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins.			**SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS** (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)				
Sept. 2			**OH, WHAT A NIGHT!** Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)								**JANIE** Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401)

Films and Bullets Go to Normandy

Motion pictures are keeping pace with the "GI's" in Normandy and a recent shipment of films to the Continent indicates that they will be a regular part of the entertainment for the Armed Forces as they battle their way forward. This was stated by Col. E. L. Munson, chief of the Army Pictorial Service, recently returned from the European theatre of operations, in a report to the industry's War Activities Committee, under whose auspices more than 16,000 film programs have been given to the Armed Forces in combat areas.

Colonel Munson said: "A reserve of current pictures in 16mm which had been built up in England for just this purpose is being moved across the Channel continuously with the regular implements of Axis discomfort."

Some are: "See Here, Private Hargrove," "Bridge of San Luis Rey," "Song of Bernadette," "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," "The Uninvited," "Chip Off the Old Block," "Moonlight in Vermont," "Crime Doctor's Strangest Case," "My Kingdom for a Cook," "The Heat's On," "Gangway for Tomorrow."

Two-Reel Version of 'The Negro Soldier'

A two-reel version of "The Negro Soldier," official film, has been prepared by the War Department and has been sent to film exchanges around the country, according to the War Activities Committee.

Prints of the two-reeler are available without cost to all exhibitors; so are prints of a four-reel version now being circulated.

Burkett, Republic in 'Tugboat Annie' Deal

HOLLYWOOD, July 23.—James S. Burkett closed a contract with Republic Pictures for lease of two "Tugboat Annie" features annually for the next seven years.

Burkett's commitment does not conflict with his "Charlie Chan" series for Monogram. The 'Annie' features will be made independently and are budgeted at $325,000 each.

'Going My Way' Goes Places in Buffalo

BUFFALO, July 23.—"Going My Way" is going places here. After a record-breaking weekend at the Great Lakes it appears sure of at least $25,000 in the first week of what looks like a good run. "Make Your Own Bed" will top $11,000 at the 20th Century. After a long hot spell, the weather has improved.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22:

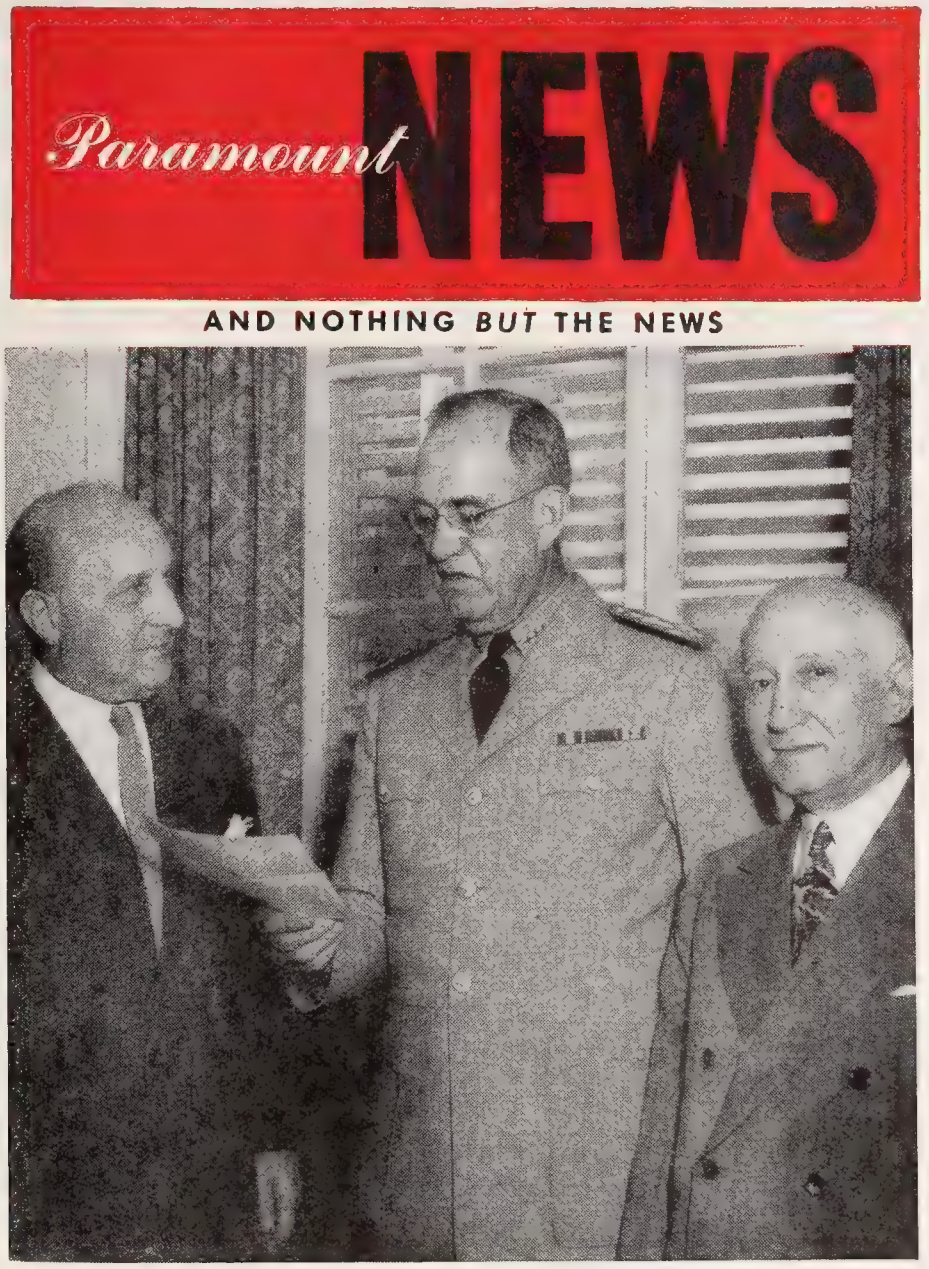
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $17,400).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,200).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).

"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB)
20TH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,200).

"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,400).



'Holiday', 'Wassell' Are Both Grossers

KANSAS CITY, July 23.—"Christmas Holiday" went over the top this week at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway, doing around $18,000 at the three theatres. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" completed a third successful week at the Newman with the score still up around $15,000. Business was best at all theatres over the weekend, due, perhaps to a midweek of unsettled weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ending, July 18-21:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c 60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Yellow Rose of Texas" (Rep.)
"Call of the Rockies" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,600).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,600).

'Wassell's' $24,000 Tops Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, July 23.—"The Story of Dr. Wassell" took the lead this week at the Penn with a gross of $24,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 17-21:

"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Address Unknown" (Col.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,100).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $21,700).

"Show Business" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).

"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $3,400).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,000).

"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3dr week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,350).

'Cliffs' Breaks Record At Omaha Theatre

OMAHA, July 23.—"The White Cliffs of Dover" struck a new year's high for the Paramount Theatre, grossing $15,400, against a $11,700 average. "Pin-Up Girl" moved over to the Omaha for a second week and, dualled with "Bermuda Mystery," hit $9,900. Showers broke up fair weather during the week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 19-20:

'Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
'Days of Glory" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $6,500).

'Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
'Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, "Pin-Up Girl," 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $8,400).

'Double Indemnity" (Para.)
'Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,900. (Average: $9,900).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $11,700).

ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS

TRIGGER
SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

SONG OF NEVADA



Featuring

DALE EVANS
MARY LEE

with

LLOYD CORRIGAN
THURSTON HALL
and
BOB NOLAN AND THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS

JOSEPH KANE, Director

Original Screenplay by
GORDON KAHN • OLIVE COOPER

Songs

"It's Love, Love, Love!"
"New Moon Over Nevada"
"Hi Ho Little Dogies"
"The Harum Scarum Baron of the Harmonium"
"What Are We Goin' To Do?"
"A Cowboy Has To Yodel In The Morning"

A Republic Picture

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 16 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

Rathvon Cites Independents' Product Boost

RKO Lists 12 from Goldwyn and Others

With N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, announcing a company policy of distributing a "larger number of features of foremost independent producers," some 400 delegates to RKO's 13th annual sales convention, opening here yesterday, were told that a minimum of 12 features from independents will be released by the company in 1944-45. They will come from International Pictures, Samuel Goldwyn,



N. Peter Rathvon

(Continued on page 3)

25 WAC Films In First Half

Los Angeles, July 24.—Ten studios produced 25 films for the War Activities Committee during the first six months of 1944, John C. Flinn, co-ordinator of WAC's Hollywood division, revealed in a report to the executive committee. The films ranged from 125-foot trailers to two-reelers. The

(Continued on page 11)

Tom Arthur Cited For 22 Missions

St. Louis, July 24.—Lt. Thomas G. Arthur, one of the five sons-in-service of Harry C. Arthur, Jr. of Fanchon & Marco, has been awarded the AAF Air Medal for 22 combat missions as navigator on a Liberator bomber in Italy.

Lt. Arthur, 23, formerly with F. and M., has seen action in France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Rumania and Jugoslavia.

Permit U. S. Entry Into Goldman Case

Philadelphia, July 24.—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here today granted the petition of the Government to enter the William Goldman anti-trust suit as an *amicus curae* (friend of the court).

The Government, indicating that Goldman's suit against Warner Theatres and distributors involves the same situations as those in the Department of Justice's consent decree, will file briefs in the complainant's appeal from a U. S. District Court dismissal action.

B'way Grosses In Upswing

Led by David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away," which arrived at the Capitol Theatre last Wednesday, and M-G-M's "Dragon Seed," which opened at Radio City Music Hall on Thursday, New York downtown first-run houses report a general upswing in grosses this week. The return of warm weather after an interlude of moderate temperature failed to have much effect on grosses. Both 'SYWA" and "Dragon Seed" are both doing capacity business but their

(Continued on page 11)

UA Seeking Permanence In Rank Tie

London, July 24.—United Artists would welcome a "more permanent affiliation" with J. Arthur Rank than is contemplated in the pending two-year deal for U. S. distribution of Rank's British product, Gradwell L. Sears, UA distribution vice-president, stated here today following a weekend at the country home of Filippo del Guidice, managing director of Two Cities Films.

(As reported in *Motion Picture Daily* under a New York dateline today, the Rank-UA contract, signing of which is expected within the next three weeks, would be for a two-year period, with Rank planning to

(Continued on page 10)

500 Due at M-G-M Owners' Luncheon

All exhibitors in the New York-New Jersey area have been invited by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager of Loew-M-G-M, to a special luncheon to be held Thursday in the Astor Hotel here. Some 500 are expected.

The following M-G-M executives will attend, besides Rodgers: Edward M. Saunders, assistant general sales

(Continued on page 11)

Seek Greater Theatre Aid For 6th Loan

Best Showing of All in 5th by Film Industry

Washington, July 24.—With returns from the Fifth War Loan not yet in, administration officials already are turning their attention to the Sixth War Loan drive scheduled for the Fall and likely to be denominated the "Victory" Drive. Motion Picture Daily on July 17 disclosed that the Sixth War Loan drive will start on the Nov. 11 Armistice observation of World War I and run to the Dec. 7 observance of Pearl Harbor Day of World War II.

Eighteen and possibly 20 billion dollars may be the goal of the sixth campaign in which the motion picture industry will be called upon for an even greater effort than it made in the "Fighting Fifth" drive.

Preliminary reports indicate that in the campaign now closing in which the

(Continued on page 10)

PRC Sales Reorganized

Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager of PRC Pictures, is reorganizing PRC's distribution department with the appointment of three division sales managers.

Sidney Kulick, associated with PRC's New York exchange, will supervise the Eastern division, com-

(Continued on page 11)

OCR Confirms Tighter Rules on New Theatres

Washington, July 24.—Office of Civilian Requirements officials today formally disclosed that they had assured the Theatre Owners Advisory Committee that new theatres hereafter would be permitted only where "absolutely essential," it was learned in a report issued by the War Production Board of a meeting on July 21 between the two groups, confirming a story in Motion Picture Daily on that date.

The official resume of the sessions disclosed that William Y. Elliott, head of the OCR had agreed with exhibitor contentions that insurance of continued operation of existing houses was more important than new construction in war production centers, many of which will lose their increased population after the war.

Both Elliott and Donald R. Longman, director of the Service Trades Division of which the recreation and amusements section is a part, assured the committee that tighter requirements would be imposed on applications for new theatres which, first of all, will have to establish that a definite war need exists.

It was disclosed also that the committee was advised of the possibility that some 50,000 chairs may be made available in the next few months to be built from fabricated parts in inventory and from materials obtained from idle and excess stocks. A suggestion that aluminum may be usable as a substitute for other and scarcer materials will be studied.

OCR officials also will study complaints of exhibitors of alleged inequitable distribution of freon gas whereby such users as department stores are enabled to secure supplies when theatre operations cannot.

'Duration Permits' For Operators

Chicago, July 24.—Chicago projectionists Local No. 110, IATSE, is now issuing 'duration work permits' to replace the 40 members now in service, according to James Gorman, president. Twenty of the permits have already been issued. They require the payment of union dues but no initiation fee. The permit men will be required to turn in their cards after the war, unless new vacancies are created.

Daryl

A NATION IN TUR

GLORY AND HEARTBREAK!

A CAST OF 12,000!

200 MIGHTY SETS!





Directed by HENRY KING

World Pre

AT THE WORLD FAM

Operating under special

HELP YOUR INDUSTRY REPORT TO THE NATION!

UA Seeking Permanence In Rank Tie

(*Continued from page* 1)

set up his own exchange system in America through Eagle-Lion Films when the building and manpower shortages are overcome after the war.)

"The Way Ahead," one of the Two Cities features on the schedule for American release, was screened for Sears during his visit to Del Guidice, and tonight the UA executives will have a second talk with Rank. The latter, for the present, refuses all comment, but Del Guidice expressed "supreme pleasure" with the progress being made.

Although UA may utilize Two Cities facilities for essential quota production, it is to be understood that the present talks fall into the pattern of the new alignment whereby Rank is expected to become chairman of the Two-Cities board of directors, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on July 13. Official announcement of his joining the board is being held until the conclusion of the talks with Sears.

First Nine Releases

Meanwhile, the first nine pictures to be released next season in Canada by Empire-Universal Films, and in the U. S. by U.A. from the J. Arthur Rank enterprises include: Noel Coward's "This Happy Breed," "The Demi Paradise," with Laurence Olivier; "Candlelight in Algeria," co-starring James Mason and Carla Lehmann; the comedy, "English Without Tears," "The Tawny Pipit," comedy drama; "The Flemish Farm," with Clive Brook and Jane Baxter; "The Man in Gray," featuring Mason, Margaret Lockwood and Phyllis Calvert; and the last two pictures starring the late Leslie Howard, "The Gentle Sex" and "The Lamp Still Burns."

Davis Due Aug. 15 For Rank Survey

MONTREAL, July 24.—John Davis, managing director of Odeon Theatres, who arrived last week in Montreal to begin a distribution survey tour of Canada and the U. S., on behalf of J. Arthur Rank, is due in New York Aug. 15, after traveling through the Dominion as far West as Vancouver.

"I have come to learn and listen, not to talk," Davis said here.

Barclay McCarty, 43, MGM Publicist, Dies

Barclay V. McCarty, 43, a member of the M-G-M home office publicity staff for the past two years, died yesterday at the Fifth Ave. Hospital after a brief illness.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Virginia Cotier McCarty of the editorial staff of *Women's Wear*, and his mother, Mrs. Marclay McCarty, Sr.

From newspaper and magazine work, McCarty went to Warner's publicity department and then publicized various Broadway shows. He was a member of the Theatre Managers and Agents Union and the Lambs and Players clubs.

Reviews

"Janie"

(Warner Bros.)

Hollywood, July 24

TODAY is a good time for showmen playing Warner product to start circulating in junior circles, inclusive of the Sunday School crowd and the jitterbug set, the news that a picture all about and for them is on its way to town and the title of it is "Janie." It can be added and underscored that "Janie" is not one of those juvenile-delinquency things with which the screen's been slandering them, and that it doesn't pamper them either, but goes right down the middle, showing them as and for what they are, which isn't bad. The juniors can be depended upon to pass the world to their elders, to whom the film is no less directly addressed and brings refreshingly welcome news.

The picture that is on its way to the juniors and their elders is at bottom a plain tale about today's young people, the ones just under and just over 18, in and out of uniform, and it is fundamentally a comedy performed at break-neck pace by scores of youngsters and a hand-picked group of adults marshalled by producer Alex Gottlieb and directed by Michael Curtiz. Deep underneath the comedy is a picture of life in a small American town during war time, particularly the life of the junior population, and in this picture there is of necessity some noting of states of mind, morals and viewpoints, but there is no preaching, no coddling and no condemning of the upcoming generation, and nothing remotely resembling delinquency.

The film is from the stageplay of the same title, but the script by Agnes Christine Johnston and Charles Hoffman gets rid of staginess in all save one or two minor respects. The action stays indoors most of the time, but it is so fast that the lack of movement is not a deterrent to enjoyment. The incidents are diverting without being sensational—the top one is a party for three service men which gets out of hand when scores more arrive—and it is the panorama of the subject, rather than the details of its treatment, that gives the film its wallop.

Names for the marquee are Edward Arnold, Ann Harding, Robert Benchley, Alan Hale and Hattie McDaniel, who play the adult roles, but it is as well to start mentioning those of Joyce Reynolds, Robert Hutton and Clare Foley, standouts in the junior division, which give promise of attaining marquee importance before the year is out.

Running time, 101 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Crime By Night"

(Warner Bros.)

MURDER and mystery are served up divertingly in "Crime By Night," another well-paced and entertaining film featuring the engaging antics of a suave private detective and his efficient and beautiful "girl Friday." Jerome Cowan is the slick detective in this one, Jane Wyman is his efficient and lovely secretary-assistant, and Faye Emerson is the ingenious master spy murderess. Director William Clemons achieves a neat balance between the murders and the more plasant aspcts of Cowan's encounters with both the forces of law and order and the criminals, and the result is a better than average film of this type.

Richard Weil and Joel Malone are credited with the screen play from the Geoffrey Homes novel, "Forty Whacks." The story revolves around the murder of a wealthy, eccentric newspaper owner and chemical manufacturer. Cowan is called into the case by the murdered man's recently-divorced son-in-law who fears that he will be considered the most likely suspect in view of a long-standing feud. Later Cowan is retained both by the local sheriff and district attorney. Working for three different people at the same time, Cowan finally unravels the complications and exposes Miss Emerson, a supposedly reputable concert manager, who has been heading a spy and sabotage ring and had killed the publisher to get a special chemical formula for high explosives. Also in the cast are Charles Lang, Eleanor Parker, Stuart Crawford, Cy Kendall, Juanita Stark and Charles Wilson.

Running time, 72 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 9.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

F. T. Kintzing Dies

Frank Taylor Kintzing, 72, producer and theatrical booker, died here at the weekend following a long illness. Kintzing, a member of the Association of Theatrical Agents and Managers, is survived by a sister and a brother.

George Stroud Dies

TORONTO, July 24. — George W. Stroud, 21, formerly of the Savoy Theatre, Hamilton, Ont., drowned recently in Lakefield, Que., while on furlough from his RAF Ferry Command post. He was the son of George W. Stroud, manager of the Palace in Hamilton.

Seek Greater Aid For 6th War Loan

(*Continued from page* 1)

drive for "E" bond sales encounter the greatest difficulty so far expe enced, the film industry made the b showing of any single participati group. The film industry has in fa been the backbone of all the fi drive because of the effect of the co stant hammering home on the s of the Government's message on sales of other participating agenc as well as those of the theatres the selves and the assistance given oth selling groups by talent appearanc and other cooperative actions.

Officials in Washington are hope of a decision in the European war b fore the next bond campaign is ini ated, which will give the basis for plea to "kick in" and get the wh conflict over with quickly.

Continue 5th Drive 'Mop-Up'

Meanwhile the film industry "Fighting Fifth" headquarters in Ne York report that Fifth War Lo "mop-up" plans by theatres indica that the bond-selling drive will co tinue full-speed in many sections rig up to the last minute of Thursda night, July 27, the final day of the driv according to exhibitor state chairme

This week, final week of the can paign, will see many large "War Bon Premieres" and other events schedule to boost bond totals and greatly e ceed quotas in response to the Trea ury's call to make the fifth loan "t greatest war financing job of a time." Emphasis right through wi be on the sale of bonds to individual with heaviest stress on "E" bond which are still far from quota in man situations.

The industry's "Fighting Fifth committee advises exhibitors that dur ing this final week of the drive, it important to rush their bond sale ac countings to their Federal Reserv Bank so that all sales will be counte in the campaign total.

Exchanges to Aid With Bond Reports

Branch managers and field sales men have been enlisted by the dis tributors division of the War Activi ties Committee to contact all exhibi tors in a follow-up system to mak certain that the latter send in officia Fifth War Loan reports to the na tional industry committee in Ne York, Ned E. Depinet, distributors division chairman, disclosed yesterday

Depinet has asked managers to ad vise all salesmen that a report is de sired from every theatre, even though for the sale of only one bond, and that exhibitors should be given to under stand their report is confidential and that after the July 27 deadline each exhibitor, as contacted, should be asked whether he has sent in a re port, and if he hasn't, he should be induced to do so immediately.

As part of the follow-up system, the national committee will send progress reports to each exhibitor and distributor state chairman. These reports will be two-fold: One will give each chairman the war bond results of each theatre as reported to the national committee, and the other will list theatres which have not reported, with the request that they be contacted so that they may be placed in the reporting classification.

20th Cen

TAKES ITS BIG

TO ANNOUNCE

THE BIGG

IN 50

OF SCREEN E

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic, left New York over the weekend for the Pacific Coast, stopping off in Chicago enroute.

•

HOMER SNOOK, sales manager of RCA's theatre equipment division; H. J. BENHAM, RCA executive, and ADOLPH BENHAM, assistant manager of service, have returned to Camden headquarters from the Midwest.

•

DON L. TURNER, manager of commercial engineering for Altec Service, left New York yesterday for a stay at the Los Angeles office, with inspection and stopovers en route.

•

RUD LOHRENZ, United Artists' Midwest district manager, has returned to Chicago headquarters from Minneapolis.

•

VERN HUDSON, manager of Famous Players' Palace Theatre, Guelph, Ontario, has been elected president of the local Rotary Club.

•

JOSEPH QUITTNER, co-owner of the Quittner-Perakos circuit, Hartford, has left for a two-week vacation at New London.

•

J. KNOX STRACHAN, publicity director for Warner Theatres in Cleveland, is vacationing.

•

BEATRICE ROSS, Republic home office trade press contact, returned yesterday from two weeks at Trout Lake, N. Y.

•

ROBERT M. WEITMAN, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, New York, is on vacation.

•

NORMAN ELSON, general manager of Trans-Lux Theatres, will leave today for a two-day trip to Boston.

•

CHARLES REED JONES, Republic advertising director, will leave for California on Friday.

•

STEVE EDWARDS, Republic director of publicity, is in Atlantic City.

Paley to Confer on Army Radio Plans

William S. Paley, chief of radio for the psychological warfare division at Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Force, returned to New York over the weekend for what was described as a "very short stay," following a trip of inspection throughout the areas of the Normandy peninsula occupied by Allied troops.

Paley is on leave of absence to the Office of War Information from his position as president of Columbia Broadcasting. While here he will confer in Washington with officials of OWI and the War Department about further plans for the functioning of his section of the psychological warfare organization.

WB Seeks Reversal In De Havilland Suit

LOS ANGELES, July 24.—Warner Bros. today filed its first brief in the Appellate Court seeking reversal of the Superior Court's decision declaring Oliva de Havilland a free agent. The brief asserts the studio is entitled to 26 weeks of the star's services still due under a seven-year contract which Warners asserts ran only six and one-half years. The basic contention concerns the question whether players' contracts run or go into abeyance during periods of suspension.

The case, long in litigation, is considered to have trade-wide significance as establishing a precedent likely to affect the status of all long-term contracts for talent.

13 Are Named to Para. 100% Club

Performances of 13 Paramount men, one salesman from each of the company's 10 districts and one booking manager from each of its three divisions, have earned them election to Paramount's '100 Percent Club' of 1944.

The list, as announced yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice president in charge of distribution, is as follows:

Maurice Simon, Buffalo; Max Mendel, New York; Robert E. Caskey, Pittsburgh; Gordon Bradley, Atlanta; Bertrand L. Turgeon, Atlanta; Sam B. Stoll, Chicago; Sam Brunk, Oklahoma; Fred E. Wagoner, Indianapolis; W. Sebe Miller, Dallas; William Curry, Des Moines; Frank Wayne Thiriot, Salt Lake City; M. C. Burles, Los Angeles, and William B. Haarman, Omaha.

Presentation of membership pins and insurance policies awarded to the newly elected members will be made soon.

20th-Fox Sets Five Of 1944-45 Releases

"Sweet and Lowdown" with Benny Goodman and his orchestra, Lynn Bari, Jack Oakie and Linda Darnell; "Greenwich Village," in color, featuring Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda and William Bendix; and "Dangerous Journey," the Denis-Roosevelt expedition film; will be released in September in block two of 1944-45, by 20th Century-Fox.

Block one of 1944-45 includes "Take It Or Leave It" and "Wing And a Prayer."

Schine Closes for Republic Product

J. R. Grainger, Republic president, reports the closing of a 1944-45 product deal with the Schine Circuit. Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gilis represented Republic, assisted by Jack Bellman, Buffalo branch manager; Arthur Newman, Albany branch manager; George H. Kirby, Cincinnati branch manager, and Sam P. Gorrel, Cleveland branch manager. George V. Lynch represented Schine.

Mexican Production Halted Second Time

MEXICO CITY, July 24.—Production was suspended here for the second time this year due to another inter-labor conflict which forced the ousting of Enrique Solis, chief of the studio workers, who the majority of the unionists accuse in full page newspaper advertisements today of manoeuvering a division in the union.

The halt ironically followed the close of a pact between producers, the unions and the government to improve the industry's conditions and foster internal harmony. Producers disclaim any responsibility for the production stoppage placing the entire blame on the laborites. It was learned, however, that producers' displeasure at the attitude of directors and writers who are attempting to raise the level of their fees, which the producers term exorbitant, was another factor in the stoppage.

It is expected that the government will again intervene to settle the conflict.

Educators Look for Hollywood Aid

CHICAGO, July 24.—Specialized private firms, operating much on the order of textbook publishers, will be the postwar producers of classroom films. This was the consensus of opinion at the sixth 'Midwestern Forum on Visual Teaching Aids' which closed at the end of a two-day conference here. Don C. Rogers, local assistant superintendent of schools, and L. C. Larson, chairman of the board of Educational Film Library Association, agreed that Hollywood can be of tremendous help to the growing educational film field, but primarially in the technical departments, and such talent will be tapped where ever possible.

Goodman Sets Branch Office in Mexico

Morris Goodman, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign sales, who recently returned from Mexico City, announced yesterday that arrangements have been completed for the establishment of a branch office in Mexico as previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on June 23. The new subsidiary is Republic Pictures de Mexico, Inc.

Carl Ponedel, now manager of the company's Puerto Rico office, will be transferred to Mexico City the latter part of August, to head the new branch.

Odeon Seeks First-Run

TORONTO, July 24.—Henry Morton of Winnipeg, associated with Odeon Theatres of Canada, is negotiating with the city of Winnipeg for the purchase of the Walker Theatre in that community. The deal, not yet consummated, would give Odeon a downtown first-run house in the Manitoba capital.

Business Off, But Chicago Stays Open

CHICAGO, July 24.—So far, there have been no indications from any of the 150 theatre members of Allied of Illinois that they will close for the Summer, Jack Kirsch, Allied president here, reports. Business in the subsequent run houses, however, has been bad, Kirsch states, much of the neighborhood trade, now more prosperous than ever before, patronizing first-run houses in the downtown Loop.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 'The WHITE CLIFFS of DOVER'
IRENE DUNNE
ALAN MARSHAL
VAN JOHNSON
& SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS
IN PERSON Dave APOLLON AND HIS FILIPINO BOYS
EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION Irving CAESAR

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
STARTS TOMORROW
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

NOW IN ITS SECOND WEEK
PRC'S
"MINSTREL MAN"
BENNY FIELDS With GLADYS GEORGE
VICTORIA THEATRE Times Square New York

4TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

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Mexico May Start 'Video' This Year

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Television development may get under way on a broad scale in Mexico before the end of the year, with early broadcasts in color, it was indicated by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs today.

The CIAA released a report from Mexico City that Dr. Lee De Forest had promised regular color broadcasts from a television transmitter on which work may start this Fall. Also promised are radio and television receivers to cost $120 to $140.

Dr. De Forest returned to this country early this month after several weeks of meetings with Mexican authorities and film and other interests, in the course of which the National Cinematographic Chamber pledged almost $500,000 to supplement government aid in the building of television installations.

The program calls not only for the construction and operation of television transmitters but the production of inexpensive receivers and the establishment of an educational center for study and research in electronics, to cost in the neighborhood of $1,000,000. The electronics center is now under study by a technical commission set up by the Secretary of Public Education.

Rites Today for W. B. Morgan of 20th-Fox

Funeral services will be held here today at Campbell's Funeral Chapel for William B. Morgan, 39, 20th Century-Fox representative supervising Spain, Portugal and North Africa, who died Sunday in New York Hospital after an illness of several months.

Morgan had been with 20th Fox since 1937 when he was named assistant European manager. Later he was appointed managing director of France. At the outbreak of the war he was sent to Spain where he remained until last September when he was taken ill. Surviving are his widow and mother.

Healy Joins Lyon

HOLLYWOOD, July 24.—Frank Healy, formerly with NBC, and head of RKO's studio radio division, recently honorably discharged from the Army as major, has joined A. & S. Lyons as head of television activities and creator of package programs. The appointment of Healy is a step to the expanding television department of the agency.

Teck Building Permit Refused by WPB

Buffalo, July 24.—The War Production Board at Washington has ruled against an appeal by owners of the Teck Theatre property here to complete reconstruction of the theatre building at Main and Edwards streets.

Refusal to grant permission to continue the project was based upon the WPB's ruling that completion of the theatre was "not warranted on the basis of need for more entertainment facilities" here.

Rathvon Cites Increase in Films from Independents

(*Continued from page* 1)

Walt Disney, Frank Ross, Votion Productions, Edward A. Golden and Sol Lesser.

The season's full product announcement will be made today by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, at the second session of the three-day meeting in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here.

International, headed by Leo Spitz and William Goetz, will contribute four films to the new program. "Casanova Brown," "Belle of the Yukon" and "The Woman in the Window" are already completed; and "It's a Pleasure," starring Sonja Henie, will start next month, with David Lewis producing and William A. Seiter directing.

Goldwyn is slated to deliver three: "The Princess and the Pirate," finished, and "The Wonder Man" and "Those Endearing Young Charms." Disney's one feature, "The Three Caballeros," is described as a "novel production." The one from Ross, a color version of Lloyd C. Douglas' "The Robe," will be directed by Mervyn LeRoy and is announced as "the biggest undertaking in RKO Radio's business history."

'Lum 'n' Abner' Series

Votion Productions are listed for another in the Lum 'n' Abner series, following their "Goin' to Town" of this season. Golden will do "The Master Race," successor to his "Hitler's Children." Lesser, carrying on the Tarzan series, will offer "Tarzan and the Amazons" as his first in 1944-45.

Rathvon, in his address yesterday, described 1943 as "the most successful year in RKO's history" and emphasized planning as a matter of first moment. "The management faces a completely uncertain future with a pretty good degree of optimism," he said. RKO, he added, has already achieved four "firsts" in new projects: a pension plan, a functioning television organization, a national daily radio program, and a studio in Mexico.

The Dallas district was announced as winner of the 1944 Ned Depinet Drive, a bill competition that ran from Jan. 4 through May 18. Runners-up, in the order of finishing, were: San Francisco, Los Angeles and Oklahoma City. Montreal triumphed in the Canadian division of the contest, with Toronto second. The district managers' prize went to B. Y. Cammack of the Southwestern district, with second and third awards to J. H. McIntyre of the West, and Dave Prince, of the Southeast, respectively. Individual winners in subsidiary contests included R. S. Wolff, New York; Gus Schaeffer, Northeastern district; L. E. Goldhammer, Midwest; L. S. Gruenberg, Rocky Mountain; R. V. Nolan, Prairie, and B. G. Kranze, Eastern Central. Home office Depinet winners were: Dan Nolan, first; F. Duffy, second, and J. Wangburg, third. The field exploitation first prize went to Fred Calvin.

Prize winners in the best-salesman-in-each-district contest were: Metropolitan district, C. Penser; Northeastern, W. J. Cuddy; Eastern, S. Lefko; Eastern Central, A. Goldsmith; Southeastern, William Shiell; Southeastern, Grover Wray; Midwestern, J. Cozzi; Prairie, M. Raymon; Rocky Mountain, N. Goldfarb; Western, George Jackson, and Canadian, R. Radis.

The McGong Drive, a billion-over-quota competition among district managers, ran from June 2 through July 6. The winners were: L. E. Goldhammer, mid-western district manager; David Prince, Southeastern district manager, and Leo M. Devaney, Canadian division sales manager.

Presentation of the prizes was made by Depinet and Robert Mochrie, general sales manager. Charles Boasberg, drive captain, also spoke.

Col. Richard C. Patterson, Jr., vice-chairman of the RKO board of directors, reported that 1,550 former employes of the company have entered the armed forces to date, 684 during the past year. Of the total, 18 are women. The casualty record shows that 18 have been killed in action; 13 wounded and two taken prisoner. One ex-RKOite is a lieutenant-colonel, 11 are majors, and 15 captains. Approximately 400 are serving overseas.

Sales Staff Promotions

During the past year, Depinet said, 22 members of RKO's domestic sales staff were promoted, as follows:

Robert S. Wolff, Metropolitan district manager, to managing director RKO Radio Pictures, Ltd.; Jack Osserman, Midwestern district manager, to Brazilian supervisor, and general manager; Charles Boasberg, Eastern Central district manager, to Metropolitan district manager; L. E. Goldhammer, Prairie district manager, to Midwestern district manager; Phil Hodes, assistant to Robert S. Wolff, to New York branch manager.

Also, B. G. Kranze, Cleveland branch manager, to Eastern Central district manager; Ray Nolan, St. Louis branch manager, to Prairie district manager; Western district manager, J. H. MacIntyre, given supervision over the Denver and Salt Lake City branches; A. A. Renfro, Kansas City salesman, to acting branch manager; Tom Williamson, St. Louis salesman, to branch manager.

Also, Al Kolitz, Denver branch manager, to Cleveland branch manager; Milton Cohen, Detroit salesman, to branch manager; Tom Bailey, San Francisco salesman, to Denver branch manager; D. W. Grover, Boston booker, to salesman; H. W. (Chick) Evens, Salt Lake City salesman, to Chicago salesman.

Also, E. Merle Gwin, Denver booker, to salesman; Harry Levinson, Los Angeles office manager, to salesman; L. Craiker, Oklahoma City shipper, to salesman; Vincent O'Donnell, Philadelphia office manager, to salesman; Marvin Wolfish, Pittsburgh office manager, to salesman; C. G. Hildebrand, Washington booker, to salesman; J. Dorfman, Montreal booker, to salesman.

Following Depinet's full product announcement today, Charles W. Koerner, production vice-president, will discuss his studio plans for the coming season. Other speakers will include representatives of the affiliated producers.

"Casanova Brown" and "Music in Manhattan" were screened for the delegates yesterday morning at the Normandie Theatre.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 24

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, M-G-M president, arrived here today for studio conferences.

•

Universal elevated Robert Faber to the status of production executive, assigning him a number of pictures to oversee in charge of the studio's trailer department. Faber entered the industry 6 years ago via the editorship of the Eastern magazines, joining the Public Theatres in charge of its house organ. Later he joined the National Screen Service.

•

John Garfield, Warner star recently named as one of the outstanding young Americans by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, will speak before the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce on Aug. 9.

•

Monogram will inaugurate a new policy regarding prints for the Latin-American market, substituting dubbing for superimposed subtitles. "Lady Let's Dance" is the first feature being dubbed.

•

Lee Miller, managing editor of Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, has arrived here to confer with Lester Cowan on his production of "G. I. Joe," which will be released by United Artists.

•

Republic Pictures renewed producer Herman Millakowsky's contract and assigned him "Faces in Fog."

•

A son was born yesterday to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Michael Cunnings.

•

Fox extended Otto Brower's directorial contract one year.

•

Leon Fromkess, PRC president, returned here today from New York.

LIFT THIS PAGE

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YEARS

TERTAINMENT!

PRC Home Office Sales Reorganized

(*Continued from page* 1)

prising Albany, Buffalo, Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington. Kulick will make his headquarters at the home office.

Fred Rohrs will supervise the Southern division, comprising Atlanta, Cincinnati, Dallas, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Little Rock, New Orleans, Oklahoma City and St. Louis, with headquarters in the latter city.

PRC's Western division will comprise the territories of Chicago, Denver-Salt Lake, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Omaha-Des Moines, San Francisco and Seattle-Portland, for which McCarthy will announce the appointment of a division manager for the Western division within the next two weeks.

The home office staff has been realigned with the appointment of R. George Fleitman as McCarthy's assistant in direct charge of home office operations, as previously announced. John Cosentino has been appointed manager of the contract department, with William Kline as his assistant; David P. Wiener heads the accounting department; Harry N. Blair, recently brought on from Hollywood, is Eastern advertising-publicity director, with S. S. Kestenbaum acting under his supervision in charge of the recently created exploitation department.

500 Due at M-G-M Owners' Luncheon

(*Continued from page* 1)

manager; Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of advertising-publicity-exploitation; Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager; William F. Ferguson, exploitation manager; Henderson M. Richey, head of exhibitor relations; Harold Postman, assistant to Rodgers; E. W. Aaron, circuit sales head; John J. Bowen, Metropolitan district manager; Ralph Pielow, New York branch manager, and Benjamin Abner, New Jersey manager.

The luncheon is in line with Rodgers' plan to hold exhibitor get-togethers throughout the country to give theatre owners a first-hand picture of M-G-M's outlook. Within the past few months similar luncheons have been held in Milwaukee, Detroit and Cleveland.

25 WAC Films In First Half

(*Continued from page* 1)

report showed that four more are now in work.

Flinn revealed that 148,602 prints were turned out by laboratories and that they played 300,000 bookings in 16,000 U. S. theatres. Flinn expressed appreciation to Stanton Griffis and Taylor M. Mills, "upon whom the coordinator depends for direction and guidance."

The films have presented a wide range of important new subjects which are currently in the preparatory stages of production, he added.

Robert Wood Dies

PORTSMOUTH, O., July 24.—Robert L. Wood, 42, formerly operator of the Eastland and Garden Theatres here died at his home today following a lengthy illness. His widow survives.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"SINCE YOU WENT AWAY" (Selznick-United Artists)

New York

DAILY NEWS, *Kate Cameron*— . . . a heart-warming, tenderly sympathethic and tragic picture. . . . It is unashamedly a tear-jerker that has been kept from sloughing itself in a sea of despondency by the light touch of director John Cromwell. It is superbly acted by the principal members of the cast, but it is much too long.

. . . A great deal of the film could have been snipped away without loss to the drama. . . .

Claudette Colbert gives an intelligent and sympathetic performance, one of the best of her entire career. . . .

The Hilton girls are admirably realized by Jennifer Jones and Shirley Temple. . . .

There is nothing the matter with the film which a scissors and the exercise of good judgment on the part of the producer can't cure. The picture's one fault is that it is much too long.

DAILY MIRROR, *Lee Mortimer*— . . . Space limitations preclude telling in full detail what's wrong with Selznick's attempt to portray a year in the life of an average American family while papa is off to war.

It is maudlin. It is verbose. It is 90 minutes too long.

There are said to be 500,000 words in the English language. The sterling artists who speak the dialogue in "Since You Went Away" have to pronounce all of them—twice.

Selznick sought to strengthen a weak premise by using every trick of filmdom. He out-tricked himself.

Attempts at characterization end up by reverting to character stealing.

For the record, I want to state that I left the theare after two hours and 27 minutes of this two-hour-and-53-minute picture. Nothing happened until then. If anything did in the final 26 minutes, I apologize.

JOURNAL-AMERICAN, *Rose Pelswick*— . . . an emotionally affecting study of an American family in wartime. Tear-inducing in theme . . . tells a story that has been and is being lived in countless American homes. . . . Excellently produced, directed and acted. . . .

The picture is spun out with warmth and sympathy, and though overly generous in the matter of footage and tears, it provides a series of effective characterizations and incidents. . . .

HERALD-TRIBUNE, *Howard Barnes*— . . . has wrought an impressive and frequently touching account of our civilian front.

. . . "Since You Went Away" jerks at one's tear ducts in no uncertain manner. It is overlong and episodic and it takes some license, to my way of thinking, with the obvious tragedy of war, but it has heart and a curious simplicity which permits each and every spectator to identify himself with a screen fable.

The story is so slight that one wonders how even a writer-producer could have expanded it to its inordinate length. . . .

Individual scenes are better than the work as a whole. Walker and Miss Jones are superb in the romantic episodes which culminate in tragedy. . . .

Selznick has spared no pains on the externals of the film. It is as handsome an offering as you will see in town. Without ever cutting to actual fighting, it builds up a tremendous sense of what this country is involved in; it illustrates the extraordinary reservoir of courage of which we can be so proud. It is only a pity that the producer did not hire a good editor to work on his script. John Cromwell has staged the sequences with cunning, but there are just too many of them.

The acting is so uniformly excellent that you will have to consult the cast to appreciate its true worth. . . .

. . . "Since You Went Away" is a series of brilliant vignettes, which rarely fuse into a resolute and unified picture, but still carry an undeniable appeal.

POST, *Irene Thirer*— . . . "Since You Went Away," which runs 2 hours 51 minutes and has settled down to what will unquestionably be a lengthy hit engagement at the Capitol, is a warm and winning picture . . . a vast amount of unnecessary footage.

Not unusual in theme, but gigantic in proportion and production. . . .

. . . Selznick's screen story will especially be taken to the bosom of American womanhood, and be approved, in addition, by the wandering males and those others who fight from the U. S. A. . . .

The principal virtue of SYWA is its intimacy. Not one reel in the all too many rings phony. If anything, the picture lacks sufficient suspense and excitement—so familiar are the episodes pictured and the characters concerned. . .

PM, *John T. McManus*— . . . On the whole, it is a presumptuous attempt of a film-maker with apparently only a nodding acquaintance with his country to fashion a model section of it, peopled with magazine cut-out characters moved by the most superficial of motives, and present this to the people, at advanced prices, as a shining example of themselves. . . .

"Since You Went Away" rubs futile, salt tears into the comparatively few wounds America has thus far suffered. . . .

SUN, *Eileen Creelman*— . . . Even the most sprightly moments cannot lighten the gloominess of the story as a whole. Too much sadness enters the lives of these likeable people. Too many people weep on each other's shoulders. A large audience sobbed along with the characters more often than not. It is intresting to note that most of the audience nose-blowers, eye-dabbers and sniffers were men, and not women. Maybe this is a man's picture after all.

'SYWA' and 'Seed' Lead Upswing In B'way Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

length is preventing higher grosses. "Since You Went Away" is headed for a near-record $85,000 for its first week at the Capitol. With Gene Krupa and his band on the stage the combined show runs about three-and-one-half hours which allows only five shows a day. The Music Hall counted $75,000 on the first four days of "Dragon Seed" and a stage show, and expects $125,000 for the week. Both films appear headed for long runs.

Both the Paramount and the Roxy continue to roll up moderate grosses. The second week of "And the Angels Sing" and a stage bill headed by Perry Como and Jerry Wald and orchestra is expected to give the Paramount close to $70,000 with $53,000 recorded on the first five days ending Sunday night; the combination will hold another two weeks. About $70,000 is also expected for the second week of "Take It or Leave It" and a stage show with Duke Ellington and his orchestra, Ella Logan and Jerry Lester at the Roxy; this combination will hold until next Monday.

"Christmas Holiday" is still doing good business at the Criterion with $24,000 expected on the fourth week ending tonight. The film will continue for another week before making way for "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" on Aug. 2.

'Skeffington's' Ninth Week

Both "Mr. Skeffington," in its ninth week at the Hollywood, and "The Story of Dr. Wassell," in its seventh at the Rivoli, are headed for higher grosses this week. With $19,500 recorded on the first four days, the Hollywood expects to gross $30,000 this week. The Rivoli's gross this week will be close to $35,000 which is almost $5,000 better than last week. A modest $18,000 is expected for "Bathing Beauty's" fourth week at the Astor; it will continue.

The second week of "The Adventures of Mark Twain" and a stage show headed by Vincent Lopez and his orchestra is expected to bring the Strand a moderate $38,000 on the basis of the first three days' $19,800, ending Sunday night. It will hold for a third week with "Janie" tentatively set to take over on Aug. 4.

Elsewhere business was generally satisfactory. "The Hairy Ape" is expected to bring $9,500 on the final six days of a fourth week at the Globe; M-G-M's "The Canterville Ghost" will open on Friday. "Marine Raiders" is headed for $10,000 on the final five days of a fourth week at the Palace and RKO's "Step Lively," originally announced to open last Friday but deferred, will open tomorrow.

The Rialto held "Jungle Woman" for a second week and expects at quiet $6,500. "Shadows in the Night" will open this Friday rather than last Friday, as originally reported. Business continues steady at the Gotham with the reissue of "Dead End" expected to bring $7,500 on a third week; it will continue. The "Fantasia" reissue is continuing with moderate business at the Manhattan with $6,500 expected on the fourth week. "Minstrel Man" is expected to give the Victoria about $8,000 on its second week and is expected to continue.



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VOL. 56. NO. 17 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

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50 from RKO For '44-45, Says Depinet

20 Already Finished or Now in Production

At least 50 features are scheduled for distribution by RKO Radio during 1944-45, it was announced by President Ned E. Depinet yesterday at the company's 13th annual sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here. The total compares with 44 this season and 39 in the pre-Pearl Harbor year of 1941-42.



Ned E. Depinet

Combining the facilities of the RKO studio and those of a number of in-

(Continued on page 12)

Rodgers Lists 9 in Block No. 9

William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager for Loew's, yesterday announced nine pictures to comprise M-G-M's block No. 9. Among these, Rodgers stated, will be two "return engagement attractions, which will be available for a limited number of engagements. All of the pictures will be released during the three months starting Sept. 1.

Not included in the list are "An American Romance," starring Brian Donlevy, and "Dragon Seed," with

(Continued on page 9)

Reagan Lists Five In Para. Block

Paramount's first block of five for 1944-45 were announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of sales. The pictures are:

"Rainbow Island," starring Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken and Gil Lamb, in color, to be trade screened Aug. 24; "Till We Meet Again," starring Ray Milland and Barbara Britton, a Frank Borzage production, trade screened Aug. 24; "The National Barn Dance,"

(Continued on page 13)

385 Now Promised For New Season

Announcement of 50 features from RKO for 1944-45 brings to a minimum of 385 the number of commitments by 10 of the 11 companies. This compares with 366 to be delivered during the current season and 441 in the pre-Pearl Harbor year of 1941-42.

A roundup report on the other companies, except 20th Century-Fox, was published in *Motion Picture Daily* July 18. The 20th-Fox announcement is expected to be made in connection with a series of regional sales meetings, contemplated for next month.

L.A. 1st Run Form Theatre Council

Los Angeles, July 25.—First run managements in Los Angeles today completed formation of the California Theatre Council after several months in the planning stage, opening offices in the Pantages Building with Tom W. Baily as executive director, Louis J. Halper, Warners; Nat Holt, RKO; Rodney Pantages, Hollywood Pantages Corp.; Marc Wolf, Fanchon and Marco and Paramount. Among the sponsors of the new association Fox West-Coast circuit is the only major first run not represented in the new

(Continued on page 12)

22 of 24 PRC Films Set

Cleveland, July 25.—Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager, told the personnel of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Detroit and Pittsburgh offices assembled for a regional sales meeting here, that 22 of the 24 feature properties previously announced for 1944-45, have been definitely acquired.

McCarthy also announced a new cooperative policy in which PRC executives will meet with franchise holders, branch managers and salesmen quarterly to give the field men an opportunity to express their views on public trends. These meetings, McCarthy added, will also offer an opportunity to correct policy mistakes immediately instead of at the end of a season. PRC's next regional sales meeting is scheduled to be held next week in Denver.

Nat L. Lefton, Cleveland-Cincinnati

(Continued on page 13)

Radio Contact Men Appointed by PIC

Los Angeles, July 25.—The Public Information Committee today appointed studio radio contact men to membership in one subcommittee organized to work out standard practices and policies to insure closer cooperation between the radio and the screen.

The subcommittee meets later to

(Continued on page 13)

Exchange Workers File With WLB for Raises

IATSE film exchange service workers' locals in Boston, Cleveland, Minneapolis and Cleveland will file with the regional War Labor Boards in their districts for approval of a 10 percent increase for exchange film inspectors, poster clerks and shippers, which the film companies have agrred to grant. Seattle and Chicago IATSE locals had previously indicated their intention to file the film companies have already approved the required forms for filing by Seattle.

IATSE locals in other exchange centers are expected to file with their regional WLB office rather than await action by the WLB in Washington to which an appeal has been taken from a rejection of the 10 percent increase by the Philadelphia regional WLB for service workers in the Loew's Wash-

(Continued on page 13)

No Old Prints for Chicago Circuits

Chicago, July 25. — Circuit operators here have been avoiding the practice employed by independent exhibitors of booking available prints of old pictures. Unless a reissue is given a general re-release and is issued with new prints, B. and K. and Warner circuits here maintain a hands-off policy.

Of late, many independent theater operators have been shopping in local exchanges for old prints, preferring them to new second-rate product.

London Sees Rank Buying UA Interest

Hope for Pickford and Selznick Approval

By PETER BURNUP

London, July 25.—Authoritative sources here see strong possibilities that J. Arthur Rank, now discussing a deal for the American release of his product with Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists distribution vice-president, may buy an interest in UA after about a year.

While it is emphasized that Sears is not authorized at this time to negotiate any transfer of securities, Rank is understood to be anxious for such a deal. Present obstacles, it is said, are David O. Selznick and, particularly, Mary Pickford, who are among the UA co-owners. Hope is expressed that eventually they may come to regard a deal with Rank differently. Rank has held a substantial interest in Universal for some time.

Meanwhile, it is disclosed that the pending UA distribution deal in the

(Continued on page 9)

Grainger Promotes Walton and Baker

Edward Walton, formerly Republic Midwestern district sales manager, has been appointed executive assistant to James R. Grainger, Republic president, and also assistant general sales manager, effective next Monday.

Effective on the same date, Will Baker, formerly Chicago branch manager for the company, will become district sales manager supervising Republic branches in Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Omaha and Des Moines, with headquarters in Chicago.

UA Plans 3 More Regional Meets

United Artists will hold a Southwestern district sales meeting at the Tarpoon Inn at Port Aransas, Texas, July 28-30; a Midwest sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Aug. 3-5, and a Western sales meeting in San Francisco, Aug. 9-10. An Eastern district meeting followed a meeting of home office executives and sales officials at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria in New York, July 10-12 at which

(Continued on page 13)

Personal Mention

TONY SUDEKUM, president of Crescent Amusement Co., has been elected vice-president of the newly-formed Tennessee Association of Housing Authorities.

•

FRANCES SEIDEN, assistant to DICK ROFFMAN, promotion director of *Movieland* and other Hillman periodicals, is vacationing at Lakeville, Conn.

•

CHARLES J. SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox home office advertising manager, is due back at his desk today after a brief tussle with a sprained back.

•

IRVING COOPERSMITH, manager of the Felton Theatre, Philadelphia, and SYLVIA SEGAL, have announced their marriage in the Fall.

•

AL E. SHORTLEY, manager of the Princess Theatre, Columbia, Tenn., and city manager for Crescent Amusement, is on a vacation.

•

LT. RICHARD A. STOUT, USNR, formerly with the legal department of Interstate Theatres, Dallas, was a New York visitor yesterday.

•

LARRY GRAVER, district manager for Warner Theatres in Philadelphia, has undergone an operation at Temple Hospital there.

•

EDWARD GABRIEL, branch manager of Capitol Film exchange, Philadelphia, has recovered from an operation.

•

ALFRED E. DAFF, Universal foreign sales supervisor, returned yesterday from a brief trip to Mexico.

•

JULIEN DUVIVIER, Hollywood director, has arrived in New York for a several weeks' visit.

Book on Industry at War in Preparation

A pictorial record of the activities of the motion picture industry in wartime is now in preparation. The industry's War Activities Committee will cooperate with the editors of *Look* magazine in obtaining pictures and information for the project.

Combining photography and text, the book, as yet untitled, will be primarily a picture record of the film industry's activities in support of the war effort, with subjects covered including the various theatre projects, development of aerial photography, production of combat training films, accomplishments of the Hollywood Victory Committee, and other subjects. Present plans call for publication of the book early in 1945.

Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, left by plane yesterday for Hollywood, where among other matters, he will discuss plans for the book.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, July 25

WHEN this kind of money enters the payroll, it's decidedly big business:

In 1943, by official and public record, these employes of Paramount and subsidiaries—officers and directors of the parent company are not included—drew these dollars:

100 aggregated $3,066,083.22. Each was paid in excess of $20,000 but not more than $50,000. Average: $30,660.83.

31 aggregated $2,305,581.32. Each was paid in excess of $50,000 but not more than $100,000. Average: $74,373.59.

19 aggregated $3,433,733.26. Each was paid in excess of $100,000. Average: $180,722.80.

One hundred and fifty individuals, therefore, bulked $8,805,397.80. Average: $58,435.28.

Twenty-one officers and directors, likewise by official and public record, combined into $865,671. Y. Frank Freeman, vice-president in charge of the studio, drew $130,000. Henry Ginsberg, vice-president and general manager in charge of studio operations and now general manager in charge of production as well, drew $127,666. And 67 cents.

It is factual to report that Ginsberg's appointment in succession to Buddy De Sylva, who gets going with his own unit in a couple of months, was noted favorably not only at Paramount but elsewhere around the town. His stock rides high throughout Hollywood.

■ ■

A deal that failed:

Republic offered Harry Sherman a four-picture arrangement at $50,000 per. "Pop" turned it down.

Those Hopalongs of his are one of the pronounced success stories of the colony. Fifty of them strung out over a period of nine years represent a total negative cost of approximately $5,000,000. To date, they have grossed about $13,000,000, and there is life in the recent releases.

Sherman continues to chafe over Hollywood's persistent worship of the "type" stories. He wants to get away from Westerns, which are his trademark. But the various powers with whom he deals continue to decree otherwise. This induces "Pop" to mutter an assortment of mutters, never violent. Never complimentary, either.

While a number of "Hoppys" are unreleased, the Tinker-to-Evers, etc., deal with Paramount and UA is finished. Sherman produced the series for Paramount to which delivery was made, in full formality. Then Paramount turned over the negatives to UA under provisions of the arrangement made three years ago by Grad Sears with Barney Balaban.

■ ■

A director, and a very good one, is known for his ability to sell story ideas to his studio superior by re-enacting the yarn. He does it with complete dramatics. He plays the various leads, assumes falsetto voice for the woman, cries, puts in the bended knee for the forgiveness scene. It's credited with being quite a spectacle.

This routine prevailed recently, and once again clicked. The go-ahead signal was flashed, the director went off on a vacation, returned to the studio in due time, faced a call from management for an inkling on the script. By this time, as is his usual wont, the director had forgotten his own story, or essentials of it.

Proving he was as good an actor as a director, he redeemed himself and his situation by conference with the producer, throwing him false leads which the producer, of course, straightened out. Thereby, the plot fabric was entirely reconstructed.

Thereafter, the script went into work.

■ ■

Probably not true, but amusing nevertheless:

An independent producer, notoriously difficult to get on with, has a production manager who is so good he functions under contract. But the P.M. knows his principal, and knows him very well. So well, in fact, that he is alleged to have had incorporated in his agreement the stipulation he does not have to maintain voice contact with the boss beyond a "Good Morning." And that's optional.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 25

M-G-M added to its schedule "Alter Ego," an original written as a radio play, and elevated Jerry Bressler, short subjects producer to feature producership to produce it. Arch Oboler, who wrote the radio script version, will write the screen script and direct.

•

Darryl F. Zanuck will board a streamliner on Thursday to attend the New York "Wilson" premiere and will stay on for home office conferences.

•

Warners assigned Jack Chertok to produce "Land I Have Chosen."

Zanuck to Head 20th Delegation East

Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of production, will head the largest delegation of company personalities ever to go to New York at one time, for the invitational premiere on Aug. 1, at the Roxy, of his production of "Wilson."

Zanuck will be accompanied by Mrs. Zanuck, Col. and Mrs. Jason Joy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Feldman and producers and stars. Producers George Jessel and William Perlberg are already here. Henry King, director of "Wilson," and Lamar Trotti, author of the screenplay, will also be present.

Company stars who will attend the premiere include: Carmen Miranda, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Michael O'Shea, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews, William Bendix and Thomas Mitchell.

The film will have a premiere on the Coast at the Carthy Circle Theatre on Aug. 10.

'Wilson' to Play 6 Weeks at Victoria

Twentieth Fox's "Wilson," a Darryl F. Zanuck production will move over to the independent Victoria Theatre here at the same prices prevailing at the Roxy, where it opens on August 1, for a minimum run of six weeks.

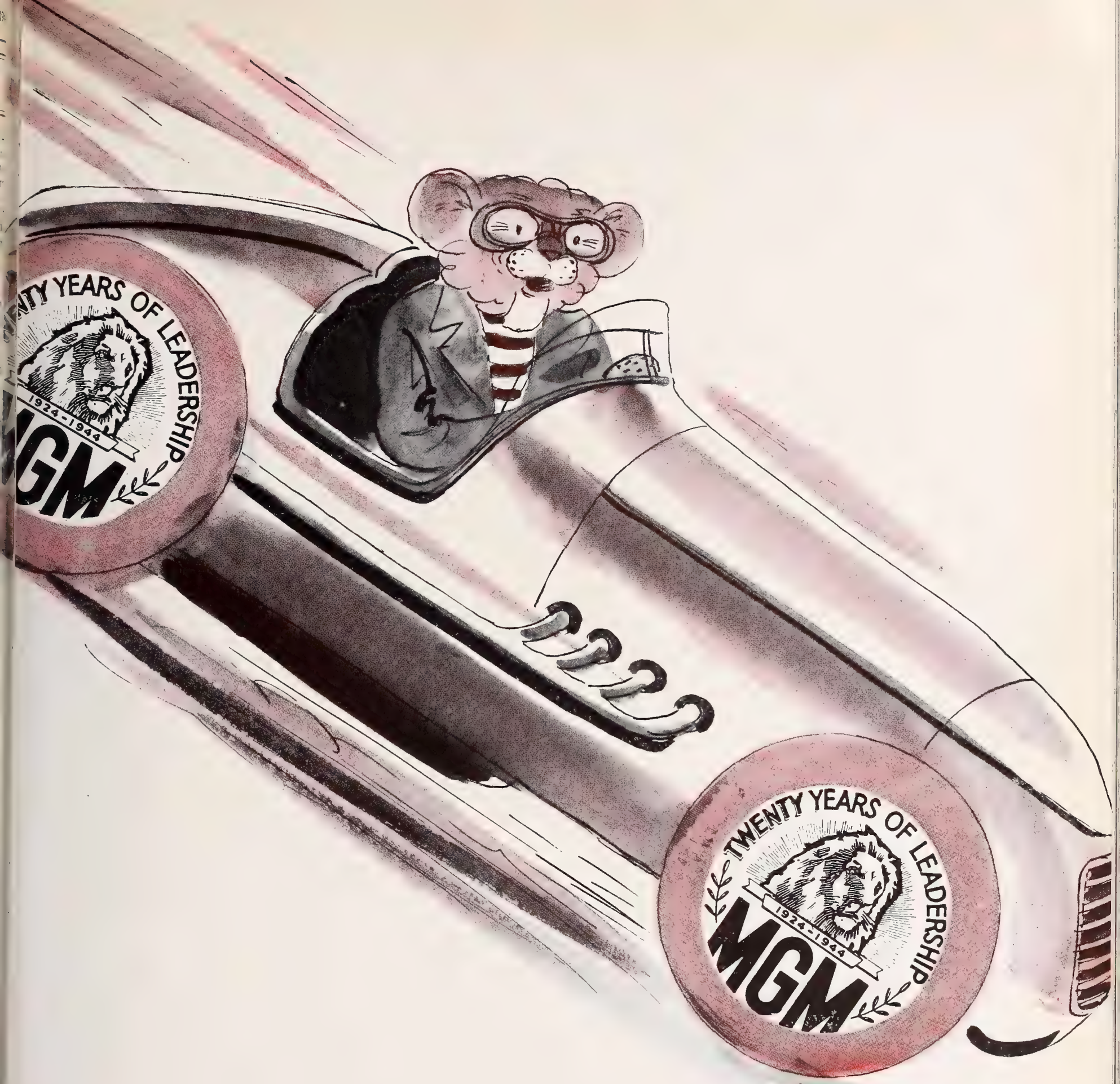
Date of the Victoria engagement has not yet been set: it may open there after the conclusion of the Roxy run, or if business warrants, move over to the Victoria for a simultaneous engagement after the first few weeks at the Roxy.

Zinn Quits Vanguard Effective Aug. 15

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—John T. Zinn, vice-president of David O. Selznick's Vanguard Pictures, has resigned, effective Aug. 15. No successor has been announced.

Zinn was with Universal from 1930 to 1934. He then assumed the post of assistant studio manager of 20th-Fox. Subsequently, he joined Paramount as business manager of the casting and talent department.

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ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN HIGH GEAR!

M-G-M Hits Keep ROARING Along!

(roar along to next page)



Katharine Hepburn as Jade, tigress in action, a woman in love

M-G-M's "DRAGON SEED" AT THE MUSIC HALL

Only a few weeks ago M-G-M's "White Cliffs" packed Radio City Music Hall and became one of the year's top grossers everywhere. "Dragon Seed" the new challenger, another mighty M-G-M Anniversary giant, will soon electrify America with its bigness, its romance and thrill, all the power and beauty that made Pearl Buck's novel a glorious best-seller!

"DRAGON SEED," Katharine Hepburn • Walter Huston • Aline MacMahon • Akim Tamiroff Turhan Bey • Hurd Hatfield • J. Carrol Naish • Agnes Moorehead • Henry Travers • Robert Bice • Robert Lewis • Frances Rafferty • Jacqueline De Wit • Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and Jane Murfin • Based on the Novel by Pearl S. Buck • Directed by Jack Conway and Harold S. Bucquet • Produced by Pandro S. Berman • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture



Ronald Colman, Marlene Dietrich, romance and treasures of Technicolor

M-G-M's "KISMET" COMING TO THE ASTOR THEATRE

An Astor event for late August. In its long and brilliant history this theatre has never welcomed such marvels of Technicolor, such magic, adventure and sly romance. Ronald Colman as the racy rascal who rose from rags to riches and Marlene Dietrich as the dancing temptress are inspired showmanship selections. "Kismet" is another in the many jewels of M-G-M's Anniversary treasure-chest.

Ronald Colman in "KISMET" with Marlene Dietrich • James Craig • Edward Arnold • Hugh Herbert • Joy Ann Page • Florence Bates • Harry Davenport • Photographed in Technicolor Screen Play by John Meehan • Based Upon the Play by Edward Knoblock • Directed by William Dieterle • Produced by Everett Riskin • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture



Margaret O'Brien, darling of "Lost Angel" scores again!

M-G-M's "CANTERVILLE GHOST" ON BROADWAY

A shooting star in M-G-M's firmament, Margaret O'Brien fulfills the joyous promise of "Lost Angel" in her new movie for the masses. Co-starred with Charles Laughton and Robert Young there's strong name value in this star-roarious comedy that alternates chills and chuckles with fun and mystery. A long-range campaign at Broadway's Globe Theatre precedes its well-advertised first New York showing.

Margaret O'Brien • Charles Laughton • Robert Young in "THE CANTERVILLE GHOST" with William Gargan • Reginald Owen • "Rags" Ragland • Una O'Connor • Screen Play by Edwin Harvey Blum • Based on "The Canterville Ghost" by Oscar Wilde • Directed by Jules Dassin • Produced by Arthur L. Field • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture



Better than a cooling plant, 4th Big Astor, N. Y. week!

M-G-M's "BATHING BEAUTY" TOPPER EVERYWHERE

At press-time the first nation-wide engagements of "Bathing Beauty," M-G-M's big summer-time show, reveal grosses close to "White Cliffs of Dover" and topping sensational "Two Girls and a Sailor." A sure-fire audience treat "Bathing Beauty" has everything, including Red Skelton for howls, Esther Williams in spectacular Acquacade, Harry James and Xavier Cugat and cast of hundreds.

"BATHING BEAUTY" starring Red Skelton with Esther Williams • Basil Rathbone • Bill Goodwin • Ethel Smith • Jean Porter • Carlos Ramirez • Harry James and his Music Makers with Helen Forrest • Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra with Lina Romay • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman • Adaptation by Joseph Schrank • Directed by George Sidney • Produced by Jack Cummings • An M-G-M Picture



THINGS LOOK VERY M-G-M!

Great pictures coming, but first take a look at just a few of the M-G-M Big Ones thus far this year! "Salute To The Marines," "Best Foot Forward," "Girl Crazy," "Lassie Come Home," "Thousands Cheer," "Lost Angel," "Madame Curie," "Song of Russia," "A Guy Named Joe," "Broadway Rhythm," "See Here, Private Hargrove," "Gaslight," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "White Cliffs of Dover," "Dragon Seed," "Canterville Ghost," "Bathing Beauty," "Kismet." And Leo goes roaring on!

WATCH!
A few of many to come!

"THE SEVENTH CROSS"
Spencer Tracy

•

"AN AMERICAN ROMANCE"
(Technicolor)
Brian Donlevy

•

"MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS"
(Technicolor)
Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien

•

"MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR"
Lana Turner

•

"NATIONAL VELVET"
(Technicolor)
Mickey Rooney

•

"MRS. PARKINGTON"
Greer Garson, Walter Pidgeon

EVERY M-G-M YEAR is Something to Celebrate!



WAR BULLETIN! HAVE YOUR BOND SALES FIGURES READY FOR FIFTH WAR LOAN REPORT BLANK

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

London Sees Rank Buying UA Interest

(Continued from page 1)

U. S. was suggested to Rank by Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, during his visit here several weeks ago, when a far-reaching agreement, involving joint production, was reached between 20th-Fox and the British executive. Physical distribution by Skouras' company is said to have been an unessential part of the main agreement, the principal aim of which was clarification of the Gaumont-British Theatres position, thus opening a wide avenue to 20th-Fox pictures in England.

Skouras, however, appreciating the difficulty that Arthur Kelly, president of Rank's Eagle-Lion Films, would face in recruiting manpower for an exchange system in the U. S., volunteered to have 20th-Fox undertake the physical distribution as a token of his regard for Rank but, at the same time, paid high tribute to Sears and volunteered, if necessary, to initiate negotiations with UA upon his return to the U. S.

Agreement Pending

Following further discussions with Sears yesterday, Rank has left the city for a week's vacation. The two will meet again next Wednesday, when they hope to reach an agreement upon what British films UA will handle in the American market. Sears will spend the interim viewing the prospective releases.

Incidentally, the UA official was forthright today in his criticism of "The Way Ahead," which he saw over the weekend while visiting Filippo Del Guidice, managing director of Two Cities Films. He said he could not understand the spoken word of half the actors and that, moreover, the picture would need enormous publicity and exploitation in the U. S. But, inasmuch as UA has already grossed $2,000,000 on "In Which We Serve," Rank's advisers discount this criticism, taking the view that it is better for British films to reach American audiences, even with little profit, than to languish unseen. Thus, in time, the British product will become known and appreciated there, they contend.

With regard to the eventual establishment of Rank exchanges in America, his advisers state that they may not know until a year after the war whether this will be necessary. Meanwhile, Kelly will remain Rank's selling agent in the U. S.

7 Gainsborough Films Through Nat Saunders

The seven Gainsborough minor-budget pictures that Eagle-Lion films will sell next year, supplementing the major product slated to go through United Artists in the U. S., will be distributed by English Films, Inc., of which Nat Saunders is the head. This deal, as anticipated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Monday, is expected to to finalized within the next few weeks. The pictures, also listed Monday, would be distributed on a states-rights basis.

Meanwhile, reports persist, as published recently in London, that J. Arthur Rank, who controls Eagle-Lion and production of the films in the deal, may visit the U. S. in the near future. Arthur W. Kelly, E-L president, stated here yesterday that he expects the British executive to come over "some of these days," but knows of no immediate plans.

Review

"Music In Manhattan"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, July 25

THERE'S lilt, humor and music enough in this tidy tale about show people and a soldier to take anybody's mind off whatever it's on and keep it off from start to fadeout. Anne Shirley at her best, Dennis Day displaying in full his vocal ability and the type of comedy that made him the hit of the Jack Benny airshow, Phillip Terry as a soldier on leave and Raymond Walburn as a pompous impresario top a completely competant cast equipped with crisp dialogue and sharp situations in which to deliver it. The film's a click in its category.

Production and direction by John H. Auer are from a script by Lawrence Kimble based on a story by Maurice Tombragel, Hal Smith and Jack Scholl, the group of these functioning like a well trained team.

Miss Shirley portrays a Broadway actress, seeking funds to back an ailing show, and who is trapped by circumstances into posing as the wife of a war hero, played by Terry, while her fiance, Day, chafes under the deception. Later on, other circumstances compel the soldier to pose as her husband. In order to untangle the double deceit the two marry with intent to obtain an annulment, but they find out they're in love and decide to stay married. Five Lew Pollack-Herb Magidson songs, handled as production numbers in the stage show dealt with, add to the gaiety of a solidly satisfying film.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

5 Promotions in WB Theatre Dept.

Appointments of Sam Blasky as assistant zone manager in charge of film buying and booking, and Leto Hill as assistant zone manager in charge of theater operations, were announced yesterday by Frank Damis, new zone manager for Warner Theaters in the Newark territory.

Robert Paskow, head of the advertising department for that zone, was moved up to district manager, while George Kelly was promoted from the Stanley Theater to head the Newark advertising department. Arnold Jordan was advanced to chief booker.

Hand May Produce Cartoons for Rank

Hollywood, July 25.—David Hand, who last week terminated a 14-year association with the Disney studio, reports that he is negotiating with J. Arthur Rank for the establishment of an independent production unit to make both cartoon and "live-action" films. It was not disclosed whether Hand's productions would be made here or in London, Rank's headquarters.

Studios Study SDG Wage Demand

LOS ANGELES, July 25.—The studio labor managers are studying proposals submitted Monday night by the Screen Directors Guild negotiating committee for increased wages, improved working conditions for first and second assistant directors. The changes sought are in the basic agreement made in 1939 and modified in 1942, include raising the weekly pay for first assistants from $144.38 to $180 and if on contract to $158.81. If the status is on a free-lance basis, second assistants would receive proportionate increases.

Other proposals concern vacations and severance pay. The labor managers will present recommendations to the Associated Motion Picture Producers committee which is expected to make counter-proposals. The changes finally agreed upon will be submitted to the War Labor Board for approval.

SOEG Will Consider New Wage Proposals

LOS ANGELES, July 25.—The Screen Office Employes Guild will meet Friday night to consider the counter proposals made by the producers for a new contract in negotiations which started last April. Other Conference of Studio Unions locals are likewise canvassing their memberships on counter proposals offered last week by Pat Casey, Motion Picture Producers' Association's labor contact.

Negotiations are expected to continue for some weeks before final scales, which apply retroactively, are agreed upon.

Tobias, Balk to Mono.

LOS ANGELES, July 25.—Lester S. Tobias, formerly with Universal, and Henry Balk, have joined the Monogram sales staff here.

Rodgers Lists 9 in Block No. 9

(Continued from page 1)

Katharine Hepburn, Walter Huston, Aline MacMahon, Akim Tamiroff, and Turhan Bey. "An American Romance" will be generally released late in October, while "Dragon Seed" has already been set for a number of engaments during August. Both pictures will be sold separately as specials, and given the same campaign as that given to "The White Cliffs of Dover."

The two "return engagement attractions" are "Waterloo Bridge," starring Robert Taylor with Vivien Leigh, and "Naughty Marietta," co-starring Jeannette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy. A number of key city engagements already have been set for "Waterloo Bridge" in Loew houses out-of-town, starting Aug. 17.

Headlining the releases for September will be "The Seventh Cross," starring Spencer Tracy, to be followed by "Barbary Coast Gent," starring Wallace Beery. Next will be "Maisie Goes to Reno," starring Ann Sothern. This rounds out September releases except for "Waterloo Bridge," which is set for the third week.

In October there will be "Marriage Is a Private Affair," starring Lana Turner, and "Kismet," in color, starring Ronald Colman with Marlene Dietrich and Edward Arnold.

Tentatively set for November are "Mrs. Parkington," co-starring Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon, and the return engagement of "Naughty Marietta." "Lost in a Harem," second Abbott & Costello picture for M-G-M, is now being completed at the studio and is tentatively set for release in the first week in December, with pre-release dates planned for Thanksgiving week.

Gain to TC Board Instead of Rank

LONDON, July 25.—J. Arthur Rank has abandoned his plan to become a director of Two Cities Films and has arranged for Barrington Gain, described as his "most favored financial authority," to take the post instead, it has been learned here. The switch was made because of the fear of another Parliamentary 'rumpus,' with unhappy reactions for the whole industry, if Rank achieved chairmanship of another company.

Rank has a "gentlemen's agreement" with the Board of Trade not to acquire any further distributing organizations or producing companies without BOT consent. However, because Hugh Dalton, BOT president, has knowledge of Rank's financial interest in TC productions, it is regarded as unlikely that consent, if sought, would be withheld.

Fain is already engaged in overhauling the TC fiscal pattern, and his projected directorship would carry with it plenary control of the company's production finances.

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PASSAGE • AGE OF FLIGHT • CHILDREN

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.LMAN, Jr.

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WS FRONT • VIVA MEXICO • HOT MONEY • THEY FIGHT AGAIN

OF MARS • SAILORS ALL • AIRCRAFT CARRIER •

500,000 Bond Sale In So. California Sets New Record

An over-quota record of 500,110 bond sales totalling $48,100,225 was scored by 600 theatres in Southern California during the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive, Dave Bershon, exhibitor state chairman for Southern California, has advised R. J. O'Donnell, national "Fighting Fifth" chairman, and the national committee here. Sale of 325,000 by these theatres during the Fourth War Loan was considered by Treasury officials as the high water mark at that time.

The exhibitors had the collaboration of the *Los Angeles Examiner*. Bond premieres, "Free Movie" days, stage auctions, rallies, radio network programs in theatres, and other special shows were included in the effort.

Impetus was gained by coordinated showmanship from the first week of the drive, sparked by the work of theatre managers and owners, volunteers of the Los Angeles War Council, social, religious and war industry groups, Boy and Girl Scouts, air raid wardens, schools and major film studios. Cooperation was also given by convalescent war heroes and the Armed Forces personnel, veterans and patriotic groups, merchants' and service organizations, and city officials.

Ceremonies to Mark Cash Register Closing

Ceremonies will mark the closing of the giant cash register in Times Square, New York, Friday evening, according to an announcement by Charles C. Moskowitz, metropolitan New York industry chairman of the Fifth War Loan Drive. The indicator, since its dedication on June 13, sold 14,716 "E" bonds, with a maturity value of $1,167,725 and 192 "F" and "G" units, valued at $737,175, making the total 14,908 at $1,905,000.

Friday's program, starting at six p.m., will be directed by the Women's Army Corps and will feature the WAC 401st Army Service Forces band from Fort Hamilton and Sgt. Walter Gross, former NBC conductor, and his Camp Shanks' "About Face." Oscar A. Doob, campaign director, will preside in the absence, due to death in the family, of chairman Moskowitz.

Special addresses will be made by Robert J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the campaign; Nevil Ford, state chairman of the War Finance Committee; and Frederick Gehle, WFC executive manager.

Kinsky Helping to Tabulate Results

Joe Kinsky, coordinator of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan Campaign, who is on leave of absence from the Paramount theatre department, is remaining with the national committee to help supervise the tabulation of exhibitors' bond sales reports.

REEVES
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50 RKO Features for New Season, Depinet Reports

(Continued from page 1)

dependent producers, the new program is described as the most ambitious in the company's history. Twenty of the films have already been completed or are in production.

Short subjects totaling 175 are also on the schedule, including the "This Is America" series, Walt Disneys, RKO Pathe News, Sportscopes, Leon Errol and Edgar Kennedy two-reel comedies, "Headliner Revivals" (musicals) and "Flicker Flashbacks."

N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, told the delegates: "All signs indicate that our product for the coming season will measure up to the best that has ever come out of RKO Radio. This is not just hope or wishful thinking."

Studio acquisition of new producers, directors, writers and actors was explained by Charles W. Koerner, vice-president in charge of production. Other speakers yesterday included: Roy Disney, who commended RKO's distribution of Disney shorts; James Mulvey, Samuel Goldwyn, vice-president; William J. Heineman, Goldwyn general sales manager; A. W. Schwalberg of International; Edward A. Golden, who told of problems in producing "The Master Race"; George Dembow of National Screen Service; Fred Ullman, Jr., RKO-Pathe president; Walton Ament, Pathe News general manager; Malcolm Kinsberg, RKO treasurer; James Brennan, RKO Metropolitan circuit general manager; Sol Schwartz, RKO out-of-town theatres' general manager; and Harold Mirisch, general manager of RKO Theaters' film buying department.

1944-45 Line-Up

The company's 1944-45 line-up, exclusive of 12 or more independent features, which were reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

"Situation Out of Hand," produced by David Hemphill and starring Ginger Rogers, who will later appear in "The Gibson Girl," in color; two other Hemphill productions, "None But the Lonely Heart," with Clifford Odets directing, and "The Greatest Gift," a Philip Van Doren Stern original, both starring Cary Grant; two with Rosalind Russell, "Elizabeth Kenny," produced by Dudley Nichols, and "Portrait of a Lady," which Robert Fellows will produce from a play by Alexander King and Chester Erskin.

"Experiment Perilous," based on Margaret Carpenter's novel and starring Hedy Lamarr, George Brent and Paul Lucas, with Fellows producing in association with Warren Duff, author of the script; other Fellows' productions will be: "The Spanish Main," in color, with Paul Henreid, Maureen O'Hara and Walter Slezak; "The Little Black Book," with John Garfield, directed by Richard Wallace; two John Wayne films including "Tall in the Saddle," from the Gordon Ray Young novel, co-starring Ella Raines and directed by Edwin Martin, and two with Pat O'Brien, the first of which is "Having Wonderful Crime," featuring George Murphy and Carole Landis, with Edward Sutherland directing.

"Heavenly Days," in which Howard Estabrook will direct Fibber McGee and Molly; "Lady Not Alone," from the Katherine Brush novel, starring Paulette Goddard; "Johnny Angel," George Raft vehicle adapted from a *Liberty Magazine* story by Charles Gordon Booth, with Ray Enright directing; "The Enchanted Cottage," Harriet Parsons production from a play by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, co-starring Dorothy McGuire and Alan Marshal and directed by John Cromwell; "George White's Scandals of 1945."

"Bar of Music," with Bing Crosby, produced and directed by Leo McCarey; "American Carnival," with Frank Sinatra; an untitled feature starring Cantinflas, Mexican actor, with John H. Auer producing and directing English and Spanish versions, the former featuring George Brent; two musicals likewise handled by Auer, "Music in Manhattan," with Anne Shirley, Dennis Day and Phillip Terry, and "Pan-Americana," featuring beauty-contest winners.

Three Rogell Musicals

Three Sid Rogell-supervised musicals starring Wally Brown and Alan Carney, "The Girl Rush," already completed, with Frances Langford and Vera Vague, followed by "Radio Stars on Parade" and "Zombie on Broadway"; "Meet Ding Dong Williams," first in a musical series based on Richard English's *Collier's* stories, teaming Marcy McGuire and Glenn Vernon; "Albany Night Boat," with Joan Davis and Jack Haley, and "Lady of the Lampoon," both musicals.

"The Falcon in Mexico," "The Falcon in Hollywood" and "The Falcon at the Circus," starring Tom Conway in a continuation of the series produced by Maurice Geraghty; two other mysteries, "Deadline at Dawn" and "The Brighton Strangler," the latter with John Loder, June Duprez, Rose Hobart and Michael St. Angel; "My Pal Wolf," girl-dog story, with little Sharyn Moffett in the lead and with Alfred Werker directing and Adrian Scott producing.

"Betrayal from the East," based on Alan Hynd's espionage story and reintroducing Lee Tracy to the screen, with Nancy Kelly featured in a Herman Schlom production; "Farewell My Lovely," Raymond Chandler detective yarn directed by Edward Dmytryk, with Dick Powell, Claire Trevor and Anne Shirley; "Bride by Mistake," Norman Krasna comedy directed by Richard Wallace, starring Alan Marshal and Laraine Day.

Two Zane Grey Westerns, "Nevada," completed, with Bob Mitchum, a newcomer, in the lead, and "West of the Pecos" set to follow; "Come Share My Love," Oscar Brodney original starring Leon Errol; "Mademoiselle Fifi," Guy de Maupassant story of the Franco-Prussian War, directed by Robert Wise, with Simone Simon; two Boris Karloff horror numbers; "The Island of the Dead," in production, and "The Body Snatchers," both produced by Val Lewton, and "Hotel Reserve," produced in England by Victor Hanbury from Eric Ambler's romantic spy novel, with James Mason and Lucie Manneheim starred under the direction of Lance Comfort and Max Greene.

The 12 features scheduled from independent producers follow:

International Pictures, headed by Leo Spitz and William Goetz, will contribute four films: "Casanova Brown," "Belle of the Yukon" and "The Woman in the Window" are already completed; and "It's a Pleasure," starring Sonja Henie, will start next month, with David Lewis producing and William A. Seiter directing.

Samuel Goldwyn is slated to deliver three: "The Princess and the Pirate," finished, and "The Wonder Man" and "Those Endearing Young Charms." Walt Disney's one feature, "The Three Caballeros," is described as a "novel production." The one from Frank Ross, a color version of Lloyd C. Douglas' "The Robe," will be directed by Mervyn LeRoy, and is announced as "the biggest undertaking in RKO Radio's business history."

Votion Productions are listed for another in the Lum 'n' Abner series, following their "Goin' to Town" of this season. Edward A. Golden will do "The Master Race," successor to his "Hitler's Children." Sol Lesser, carrying on the Tarzan series, will offer "Tarzan and the Amazons" as his first in 1944-45.

L. A. 1st Run Form Theatre Council

(Continued from page 1)

organization which expects to expand to include all independent first-run managements also.

Simultaneous with the announcement of the organization Baily said, "The council may be described as a chamber of commerce of theatres' clearing house for information, ideas and ideals of the industry and will act as one in furthering successful prosecution of the war. The purposes are manifold and among them is to study and keep abreast of post-war matters, set up liaison between city, county, state and federal agencies, build better understanding between the theatres, public, press and public officials.

"Organizers will meet later in the week to elect officers and adopt by-laws."

Baily was granted permission to continue his activities as assistant co-ordinator of the War Activities Committee, western division.

J. W. Trevo Dies

CHARLOTTE, July 25.—John W. Trevo, operator of the Palace and Strand Theatres in Thomasville since 1911, died here recently. A pioneer in the industry, Trevo was one of the oldest members of the North and South Carolina Theatre Owners Association. Burial was in Thomasville.


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UA Plans 3 More Regional Meets

(Continued from page 1)

the company's product plans were announced.

Edward Schnitzer, United Artists sales executive, is enroute to Texas where he will meet district manager Fred M. Jack. Attending the Port Aransas meetings will be branch managers and salesmen from Dallas, New Orleans, Atlanta and Charlotte exchanges.

J. J. Unger, Western division sales manager and Rud Lohrenz and T. R. Thompson, Jr., district sales managers, will conduct the Chicago meeting which will be attended by staffs from Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Omaha. Details of the San Francisco meeting have not been set yet.

Legion Lists 15 New Productions

The Legion of Decency this week classifies the following pictures: Class A-1, "Bordertown Trail," Republic; "Marked Trail," Monogram; "Mr. Winkle Goes to War," Columbia; "Rustler's Hideout," PRC; "San Antonio Kid," Republic, and "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," Republic.

Also: Class A-2, "Black Magic," Monogram; "Delinquent Daughters," PRC; "Dragon Seed," M-G-M; "Janie," Warners; "Oh, What a Night," Monogram; "U-Boat Prisoner," Columbia; "Under Secret Orders, Guaranteed Pictures, and "Wing and a Prayer," 20th Century-Fox. In the B category was RKO's "Going to Town."

Lela Rogers Named RKO Producer

HOLLYWOOD, July 25.—The long pending deal for Mrs. Lela Rogers, mother of Ginger, to become an RKO producer became a reality yesterday when the studio assigned her an associate producership with Robert Fellows.

Mrs. Rogers was previously head of RKO's talent department, and in 1942 was named an assistant studio manager.

Seek WLB Approval For Wage Boosts

(Continued from page 1)

ington exchange. Previously the Wage Stabilization Directors' office had rejected the attempt to put through a 10 percent increase for the Loew exchange workers. Over 2,000 film inspectors, poster clerks and shippers in the 31 exchange centers are involved in the eventual outcome.

Radio Contact Men Appointed by PIC

(Continued from page 1)

name a chairman and prepare a report to the full membership of the PIC. Will H. Hays attended today's meeting and told the PIC that the screen and the radio have much in mutual interest meriting their cooperative atfention.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



SONNY TUFTS TO SUB FOR BING CROSBY AS M.C. OF KRAFT MUSIC HALL PROGRAM!..FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION BY BING TOMORROW NIGHT, PARAMOUNT'S NEW STAR WILL HEAD FAMED AIR SHOW FOR 7 WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF SEPT. RELEASE OF **"I LOVE A SOLDIER"**... WORLD PREMIERE OF THIS MARK SANDRICH FOLLOW-UP TO "SO PROUDLY WE HAIL," STARRING PAULETTE GODDARD AND SONNY, HAS JUST BEEN SET FOR THE 'FRISCO FOX AUG. 15TH.

WLB Voids $15 Raise In Frisco and L.A.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 25.—The National War Labor Board, in a directive received here yesterday, voided a $15 monthly increase announced in May by the Regional War Labor Board to affect approximately 194,000 "white-collar" workers in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas.

Stating in the communique that the regional board had violated instructions issued by the NWLB, the latter ordered the regional group to apply the revised rates to all cases now pending, adding that it might adopt another revision of wages "in accordance with instructions."

Revoke Licenses of Two Conn. Theatres

NORWICH, Conn., July 25.—The Strand Theatre here and the Mystic in nearby Mystic have been declared "unsafe" by state police commissioner Edward J. Hickey, who is also state fire marshal. Commissioner Hickey stated that he has revoked the licenses of the operators of both houses.

The commissioner has ordered an inspection of all theatres in Connecticut, following the circus fire in Hartford which took a toll of 164 lives.

Silverstone Makes Four Appointments

The following foreign appointments have been made by Maurice Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution for 20th-Fox:

C. Stewart MacGregor has been named manager in Manchester, England; Joaquin Ahedo, Ciudad Bolivia, Venezuela; Heinz Dieter Grund, Curitiba, Brazil, and Geronimo Briasco, Corrientes, Argentina.

Reagan Lists Five in Para. Block

(Continued from page 1)

with Jean Heather, Charles Quigley, Robert Benchley, Habel Paige, trade screened Aug. 25. "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," starring Gail Russell, trade screened Aug. 25, and "Dark Mountain," starring Robert Lowery, to be trade screened Aug. 25.

22 of 24 New PRC Productions Set

(Continued from page 1)

franchise owner and chairman of the PRC Franchise Holders' Committee, entertained the entire delegation at his home at the conclusion of the business sessions held at the Carter Hotel.

3,990 Spots for 'Wilson'

A total of 3,990 spot radio announcements in the Metropolitan area in connection with 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson," will have been made by Aug. 1, to date for the film's world premiere at the Roxy here, it was reported yesterday by the home office. Hal Horne, director of 20th's publicity, advertising and exploitation, is directing the "Wilson" campaign.

WAR BULLETIN!

FROM: HEADQUARTERS FIGHTING 5th WAR LOAN
TO: EVERY SHOWMAN IN AMERICA

1. In the mails to you is your 5th War Loan report blank, in giant post-card size.
2. It is a simplified form, already stamped and addressed for return mailing.
3. This is the only report to be used. Do not send letter or wire in its place.
4. Fill in your report the night of July 27th and mail immediately.
5. An honor awaits you! A citation (*see below*) will be sent to you following receipt of your returned report blank.
6. You have made it possible for the film industry to lead all others in bond-selling, but only the actual figures will prove the leadership of the industry you represent.
7. Therefore it's up to you to mail back your report promptly on July 27th.



THIS CITATION IS YOURS!

A beautiful 9 x 12 scroll inscribed to your theatre awaits you at the Treasury Department. You will be proud to frame it in your lobby. It's yours when you mail back your report on July 27th!

Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 19 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT COPY

T. Clark Will Confer with Independents

Will Meet Committee To Discuss 'Final' Proposals

U. S. Assistant Attorney General Tom Clark is understood to have given assurances to the five-man committee appointed by representatives of 10 independent exhibitor organizations who met in Chicago last February and drafted proposals for a new consent decree, that he will meet with them before the Department of Justice makes final recommendations either for a decree or prosecution of the Government's anti-trust action against the five consenting companies, it was learned here yesterday.

The five-man committee includes: Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States Association; Col. H. A. Cole of Allied; Robert Poole, secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; Jesse Stern, president of Unaffiliated Exhibitors of

(*Continued on page 8*)

Monday Deadline on Bond Cash Deposits

All cash collected in the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan drive, together with stubs of the bonds sold, must be delivered by exhibitors to the Federal Reserve Banks in their districts by midnight, July 31, if the sales are to count toward the total for the fifth campaign, Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, warned here yesterday following a conference with

(*Continued on page 7*)

Harmon Seeks End Of Star Tour Jam

Better transportation facilities for Hollywood star tours during the forthcoming Sixth War Loan Drive, Nov. 11 - Dec. 7, are being sought by Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, on his present trip to Hollywood, it was learned here yesterday. Harmon will look into the situation that limited the players solely to ex-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Control In France

First regulations on the resumed conduct of the motion picture industry in the dis-occupied countries of Europe find the Provisional Government for the Republic of France, which is scheduled to be given control of liberated areas there as soon as military exigencies permit, planing to confiscate all theatres operated under Nazi influence, and to exercise rigid control henceforth, according to official word reaching here from Algiers. Details of the provisions follow:

All exhibitors must obtain the permission of the Commissioner of Information before they can operate. No film more than one hour in length can be shown, regardless of the length of the entire program, without the permission of the Ministry of Information. All theatres or motion picture operations previously controlled or operated under the Vichy Government

(*Continued on page 7*)

Frank A. Eaton, 57, Film Ad Executive

Frank A. Eaton, 57, film account executive at Foote, Cone and Belding Advertising Agency, and former advertising-publicity manager for RKO-Pathe News, died yesterday of a heart attack at his home here.

Eaton, who held various editorial and art direction posts with magazines and newspapers, joined Pathe News as a writer in 1942. He was subsequently named advertising-publicity manager. From there he went to

(*Continued on page 8*)

Allied Asks Aid On the Postwar

Washington, July 27.—A national Allied States committee, composed of Ray Branch, chairman, Jack Kirsch and William Ainsworth, appointed to gather material on post-war problems of independent exhibitors, and to propose solutions thereof, is preparing a report to be submitted at the board of directors' meeting Sept. 7-8 at Bretton Woods, N. H.

Allied headquarters here requests the submission by members of any material on the post-war subject.

WB Pays $600,000 For 'Turtle' Rights

Warner Bros. has purchased the film rights to the John Van Druten Broadway stage play, "The Voice of the Turtle," produced by Alfred de Liagre, Jr., for a price which is understood to be between $500,000 and $600,000, plus a percentage of the gross of the picture in what marks the highest price ever paid for the film rights to a literary or stage property. The previous record was the $425,000 paid by the same company for the screen rights to the Broadway play "Junior Miss."

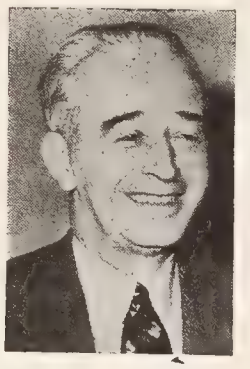
The acquisition of the play by Warner Bros. followed weeks of bidding by several companies. Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

New MGM Sales Policy for Subsequents

Will Be Applied Where Situation Warrants It

A new M-G-M sales policy designed to provide relief for subsequent-run exhibitors who are not benefiting by the general increase in theatre grosses and are in many instances faced with a shortage of product, was enunciated here yesterday by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution at a luncheon for exhibitors at the Hotel Astor here, and attended by some 350 theatre owners



William F. Rodgers

(*Continued on page 7*)

Monogram's Sales Meeting Aug. 12

Some 125 Monogram branch managers, salesmen and bookers, as well as top studio and home office executives, will attend the annual, national sales meeting of the company at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Aug. 12-13, it was learned here yesterday.

Steve Broidy, general sales manager, will preside and will outline the 1944-45 program of 47 features which W. Ray

(*Continued on page 7*)

Companies Extend Pacts with SOPEG

Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO and Columbia have signed 60-day extensions to their expired two-year contracts with the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO, covering some 2,000 "white collar" workers employed in home offices. The agreements expired at midnight, Tuesday, and have now been extended to Sept. 26.

The purpose of the extension, which

(*Continued on page 8*)

Big Box-Office Boom at Midwest Resort Houses

War Themes Dip To 12% in '45

War themes, which reached a peak when they were featured in 28 percent of the 1942-43 season's films, will be stressed in only 12 percent of product in the coming season, *Motion Picture Herald* will report in a war-film survey published today. The upswing started with eight percent in 1940-41, rose to 15 percent the year following and then, after reaching its crest, held fairly firm with 26 percent this year.

CHICAGO, July 27.—Theatres in vacation resort communities in this and surrounding areas are enjoying the best Summer business in years. Reports from Standard Theatres, operating in Wisconsin, and Indiana-Illinois Theatres, indicate that most of the resort towns in which they have houses have doubled in population this summer, and the vacationists still want film fare besides daytime activities outdoors.

The combination of prosperous times and the curtailment of long-distance transportation facilities appears to be limiting the average vacationist's traveling to 100 to 200 miles. In Michigan City, where Indiana-Illinois operates the Lake, Lido,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

FRED MEYERS, Eastern sales manager for Universal, will return to New York from Buffalo.

•

PVT. LYNN HARRIS, formerly secretary to R. J. O'DONNELL, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Theatres of Texas, is a visitor in New York.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia's assistant sales manager, will leave New York for Kansas City at the weekend for a week's business trip.

•

MAX A. BLACKMAN and ABEL VIGARD, Warner Theatres executives, will leave here at the weekend for Pittsburgh.

•

HENRI ELMAN, PRC franchise holder in Chicago, will return to his office Monday following an illness of three weeks.

•

ANNE LEVY, formerly of the Warner Theatres auditing department here, who resigned to return to St. Louis, is now back in New York.

•

JACK MATHEWS, manager of the Empress Theatre, Danbury, Conn., is vacationing in Maine.

•

JULES LEVEY and FRANK N. PHELPS of Warner Theatres spent the last few days in Philadelphia.

•

ZELMA BROOKOV of the Warner Bros. Eastern talent department will leave today for a vacation.

•

NORMAN ELSON, general manager of Trans-Lux Theatres, returned yesterday from Boston.

Talent Guilds Weigh Salary Amendment

HOLLYWOOD, July 27.—The effects of the Treasury Department's proposed amendment to wage stabilization rules, which would require prior approval of short term contracts for free-lance professionals in upper salary brackets, were discussed last night by representatives of the principal talent guilds in a meeting called by Bert Allenberg, Artists Managers Guild president.

It is understood further conferences between Guild spokesmen and Association of Motion Picture Producers representatives will be held before producers meet to prepare a reply to the Treasury Department's communication outlining proposed changes and soliciting employers' views.

Short for War Fund

Quentin Reynolds will be the narrator for the National War Fund short subject, "Memo for Joe," produced by RKO-Pathe, and scheduled for War Activities Committee distribution on Aug. 10. A special trailer, featuring Fredric March, will also be screened nationally through regional NWF committees for the drive.

Testimony Tuesday In Schine Case

BUFFALO, July 27.—Oral depositions from Henry Bieberson and John Buchman, Jr., Deleware, Ohio, exhibitors, will be taken in that city Tuesday by Robert L. Wright, U. S. Department of Justice special attorney, and Willard S. McKay, counsel for Schine Chain Theatre, Inc., in connection with the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine.

Date for the depositions was set after Federal Judge John Knight had overruled objections by McKay following arguments in U. S. District Court here this week. McKay held that "it would be very prejudical to the defendant's position if the plaintiff were given an opportunity to take the testimony of these witnesses without the presence of a proper officer of the court to observe their conduct under examination and cross-examination." Judge Knight ruled, however, that illness of Buchman made the trip necessary and that lawyers, while in Delaware, should question Bieberson also.

At the same time, the court disallowed plaintiff's request to take a deposition from E. R. Custer in the Department of Justice offices at Washington.

Meanwhile, Schine has notified the court of its acceptance of a granted extension of six months in which to dispose of theatres under the temporary court order of May, 1942. The trial, now in recess, is scheduled to resume Aug. 15.

Jacocks Honored by Former Colleagues

Don Jacocks, former Warner Theatres' zone manager in Newark, now operating theatres in Boston, was honored last night by former colleagues at a testimonial dinner held at Mayfair Farms, in West Orange, N. J.

Among the 100 invited were: Joseph Bernhard, Harry Kalmine, Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Goldberg, Sam E. Morris, Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, Clarence Eiseman, Louis J. Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Abel Vigard and Harold Rodner from the home [redacted]. From the Newark territory were: Frank Damis, successor to Jacocks as zone manager, Sam Blasky, Keto Hill, Robert Paskow, George Kelly, Arnold Jordan, and others. Jacocks was presented with a gold pen-and-pencil set.

300 Exhibitors at 'Wilson' Premiere

Approximately 300 leading U. S. and Canadian exhibitors will attend the premiere of 20th Century-Fox's 'Wilson' at the Roxy Tuesday, it was reported yesterday by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales.

District and branch managers from all territories, except the Mountain and Pacific areas will also come to New York for the opening. Representatives of the excepted districts will attend a premiere at the Carthay Circle Theatre in Hollywood on Aug. 10.

Seek Loyalty Pledge In Mexican Deadlock

MEXICO CITY, July 27.—In an attempt to end the labor row that has held all Mexican film production at a standstill since last weekend, Salvator Carrilo, secretary general of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, has issued an ultimatum to all actors and technicians, calling upon them to swear allegiance to the union by Saturday. Meanwhile, the producers, facing heavy losses, plan appealing to the president of Mexico for intervention to settle the conflict.

The trouble started over the ousting of Enrique Solis, chief of the studio workers, whom the majority of the unionists accused, in full-page newspaper advertisements, of maneuvering division within their ranks. Last week, when considering suspending operations, the 64 members of the Association of Mexican Motion Picture Producers were said to be influenced, in part, by a pending new five-percent federal tax.

Para. International Starts Operations

John W. Hicks has been elected president of the newly reorganized Paramount International Films, Inc., which has been set up as a Paramount subsidiary to conduct the company's foreign distribution.

George Weltner has been elected vice-president, Milton Kirchenberg, treasurer, and Norman Collyer, secretary. The company was originally chartered in Delaware and recently obtained authorization to do business in New York. Hicks is also a vice-president of Paramount and a member of the company's board of directors.

3 Para. Films to FWC

Paramount has sold "Double Indemnity," "Take It Big" and "The Great Moment" to Fox West Coast for first-run engagements in the Los Angeles territory in an effort to break the first-run booking jam in that area caused by the extended runs of its product, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of sales, disclosed here yesterday.

Fried Given Sendoff

Max Fried, who has resigned as Century circuit booker here to join the sales staff of the Longine-Wittenauer Watch Co., was given a farewell luncheon this week by the Motion Picture Bookers Club at the Famous Kitchen here. He will be replaced by Elmer M. Sichel, formerly with the Schine circuit.

$64,000 'Way' Gross

Chicago's, Chicago Theatre, running "Going My Way?", had a gross of $64,000 for the week ending today, instead of $34,000 as reported in a typographical error in a tabulation in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. The $64,000 figure reported in the headline of the story was correct.

$80,000 for First Week of 'SYWA'

United Artists' home office yesterday said that David Selznick's "Since You Went Away," in its first week at the Capitol Theatre, here, grossed more than $15,000 above the first week's gross of Selznick's "Gone With the Wind," in 1939. MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 27, 1939, estimated that the first week's gross of "Gone With the Wind" was $65,000, which would give the new Selznick production a first-week's gross of approximately $80,000.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE 6 WAYS 45
ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
Rise Stevens
IN PARAMOUNT'S
'GOING MY WAY'
IN PERSON
HI, LO, JACK and the DAME
MILT HERTH TRIO

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

4TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

Phil Baker - Phil Silvers - Guest Stars
'TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT'
A 20th CENTURY-FOX HIT!
PLUS ON STAGE—
DUKE ELLINGTON & ORCH.
ELLA LOGAN - JERRY LESTER
BUY MORE BONDS ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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FROM OCEAN
TO OCEAN
THE BIG
SPLASH!


M-G-M's BIG SUMMER SHOW
BATHING BEAUTY
Starring RED SKELTON
with ESTHER WILLIAMS
BASIL RATHBONE • BILL GOODWIN • ETHEL SMITH
JEAN PORTER • CARLOS RAMIREZ
HARRY JAMES and his Music Makers with HELEN FORREST
XAVIER CUGAT and his Orchestra with LINA ROMAY
PHOTOGRAPHED IN TECHNICOLOR
SCREENPLAY BY DOROTHY KINGSLEY AND ALBERT MANNHEIMER
ADAPTATION BY JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ AND GEORGE WELLES
A METRO GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
DIRECTED BY GEORGE SIDNEY
PRODUCED BY JACK CUMMINGS
Get in the $wim! It's better than a cooling plant!



TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

DON'T KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT!

Tell the world about M-G-M's Astor honey "Bathing Beauty" and "Canterville Ghost," the Star-Roarious Comedy. Just TWO in M-G-M's Group No. 8, but what a Terrific Ticket-Selling Theatre-packing Twosome!

Keep selling those war bonds! Fight by the side of the troops who never stop!

LITHO U.S.A.

Harmon Seeks End Of Star Tour Jam

(Continued from page 1)

isting trains and schedules during the Fifth Loan. Harmon will seek at least partial restoration of the earlier bond-tour system of special air travel, it is understood.

Transportation difficulties forced drastic curtailment of star appearances in the campaign just closed, and it has been contended by WAC officials here that such a policy is shortsighted because of the demonstrated value of the performers in boosting bond sales. They emphasize that the actors do not seek luxury travel in these times but that, in order not to disrupt studio shooting schedules, they must be able to get from place to place quickly.

Harmon's action in the matter, this far in advance of the drive scheduled for late Fall, is understood to be part of a general effort to overcome the last-minute jam-up which has characterized previous industry campaigns. To that end also, it is learned, a second purpose of his Coast visit is to start lining up a national industry chairman or the sixth loan. No indication of the candidates for that post has been given, but since the drives up to now have all been headed by exhibitor officials, there is said to be strong sentiment for the selection of a chief from some other branch of the industry, possibly from production.

Harmon will return to New York in two or three weeks.

Monogram's Sales Meeting Aug. 12

(Continued from page 1)

Johnston, president, announced at the company's annual franchise holders' convention in Los Angeles on June 14.

Twelve of the films will be completed in time or screening several at the sales meeting. They include: "Alaska"; "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," "They Shall Have Faith," "Little Devils," "The Secret Life of Goebbels," "When Strangers Marry," "Kitty O'Day Comes Through," "Bowery Champs," "The Case of the Missing Medico," "Army Wives" and an untitled Charlie Chan picture.

Monogram's Release Schedule Announced

LOS ANGELES, July 27.—Monogram president W. Ray Johnston today announced the company's release schedule through Jan. 30. The listing discloses 27 features will be released during the period.

Releases, by month, follow:

Aug.: "Leave It to the Irish," "West of Rio Grande," "Call of Jungle" and "Utah Kid."

Sept.: "Oh What a Night," "Black Magic," "Block Busters," "Land of Outlaws," "Shadows of Suspicion" and "Marked Trails."

Oct.: "When Strangers Marry," "Wave, Wac, Marine" and "Enemy of Women."

Nov.: "Army Wives," "Law of Valley," "Alaska" and "Mystery Mansion."

Dec.: "Case of Missing Medico," "Adventures of Kitty O'Day," "Little Devils," "Ghost Guns," "Shadow," "Bowery Champs" and an untitled western.

Review

"Bride By Mistake"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, July 27

THERE haven't been many "screwball" comedies among the product offered recently and, judging from the reaction of a week-night audience at the Hollywood-Pantages Theatre, this one is just what the customers have been waiting for.

It's a featherweight tale about the richest girl in the world who, seeking a man who will love her for herself and not her money, assumes the identity of her secretary. The story, adroitly scripted by Phoebe and Henry Ephron, from an original by Norman Krasna, is tricked out with clever dialogue, excellent acting, and sequence after sequence of hilarity. It all adds up to plain old-fashioned fun.

Laraine Day and Marsha Hunt, as the two girls involved, both give sterling performances, and Alan Marshal is splendid as the man in the middle, bewildered by the whole situation. Allyn Joslyn and Slim Summerville provoke laughter at each appearance. Others in the cast include Edgar Buchanan, Michael St. Angel and Marc Cramer. Bert Granet produced. Richard Wallace's direction is suitably light-hearted.

The time is the present, the place Santa Barbara, but the war figures in the production only to the extent that the hero and some of the characters are men in uniform, and the heroine owns a shipyard. The film is escapist in the best sense of the word.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

New M-G-M Sales Policy For Subsequent Runs

(Continued from page 1)

from the Metropolitan New York-Northern New Jersey area.

The new policy provides for the selling of top-bracket films on a straight rental basis; the foregoing of demands for preferred playing time; and the supplying of reissues where a study of the exhibitor's individual product problems warrants such action. Rodgers also promised that the new M-G-M standard sales contract will be cut in length even more than the one-third reduction already contemplated.

In return for the concessions granted to individual exhibitors where specific situations warrant relief, M-G-M expects the exhibitor to try to give the films longer runs and better promotion, Rodgers said.

The new policy will be a flexible one, Rodgers pointed out, with each individual account analyzed separately. He emphasized that the policy is designed to meet both present day conditions and those which may arise as a result of the ending of hostilities and eventual transition to the post-war period.

The new policy will start with the selling of the company's new block, No. 9, which includes return engagements for "Waterloo Bridge" and "Naughty Marietta." Exhibitors need not buy these two pictures in the block if they do not want them, Rodgers pointed out. He indicated that other reissues will be made available where various situations warrant such action.

"We know that there are some localities which, because of present film-market conditions, largely created by extended first runs, need additional product, and so to those in affected areas we are again offering relief through the release of six more pictures, all of which have been out of circulation for some time," he said.

"Sales will be based on the individual analysis of each individual situation, but all aimed in the same direction—an equitable deal and to which even the effort put forth by the theatre owner and his merchandising ability will be taken into consideration," Rodgers explained.

After explaining what M-G-M understood to be subsequent-runs, Rodgers declared: "For this type of run, and for this type only, we will, so far as our next group is concerned, and beyond that if the response warrants, offer these pictures sold in group (block No. 9) on a basis whereby those who desire can lease our pictures in the top brackets on a flat rental basis."

"We are prepared to meet the problems of our customer and where it is to his disadvantage to play our pictures on the week-end, we will negotiate for mid-week time and without asking any premium," Rodgers promised on the question of the company's usual demands for preferred playing time.

Speaking of the future, he said: "We do not claim to be prophets; we do, however, endeavor to study our market and it is our firm conviction that the amusement business, as we understand it, is built solidly and, generally speaking, we anticipate a continuance of good business even after the cessation of hostilities, which we all hope will be soon."

Seated on the dais with Rodgers were the following Loew-M-G-M executives and exhibitor leaders: J. Robert Rubin, Howard Dietz, Silas F. Seadler, Henderson M. Richey, Louis Gold, William Ferguson, E. K. O'Shea, Harold Postman, E. M. Saunders, E. W. Aaron, Jack Reville, LeRoy Bickel, Harry Brandt, Martin Smith, Max A. Cohen, Jack Bowen, Jacob Leff, Ralph Pielow, Ben Abner, Mike Simons, Walter Brooks and Jesse Stern.

Film Control In France

(Continued from page 1)

or the German occupying authorities will be confiscated by the Provisional Government. All motion pictures which had their first exhibition in France after June 17, 1940, date of the armistice, will be confiscated. All laws promulgated by the Vichy Government relative to the regulation of the film industry—with the exception of a law modifying the financial regulation of theatres and a decree relative to fire protection are declared null and void. The conducting of any business connected with the showing of motion pictures is forbidden without the permission of the Commissioner of Information.

All copies of enemy-produced films and all films made under orders or control of the Vichy government must be turned over to delegates of the Commissioner of Information eight days after the promulgation of the ordinance in any given area of the territory covered.

The new regulations are said to be aimed at the situation created by the rigid control and censorship imposed by the Nazis and their French collaborators.

Monday Deadline on Bond Cash Deposits

(Continued from page 1)

Ted R. Gamble, National War Finance Committee director.

O'Donnell urged exhibitors to meet this deadline because of the relationship of theatre sales to the "E" bond quota of $3,000,000,000, which, he said, is in sight but which might not be reached if the returns are late in being made.

Also, exhibitors were asked, when they fill out their official report cards, to make sure they do so properly and completely, providing information or figures where it is requested. This appeal, which went out yesterday from the national commitee, was prompted by a scrutiny of the first reports to reach headquarters. Although the exhibitors were asked to include receipts of July 27, some mailed their reports a day or two earlier, having completed their drives.

WB Pays $600,000 For 'Turtle' Rights

(Continued from page 1)

duction, personally made the deal with de Liagre.

At one time it was reported that de Liagre was asking $3,000,000 for the property, gving a purchaser operation of the Broadway stage play; touring companies, radio, television and film rights. The three-character play, which features Margaret Sullavan, Elliot Nugent and Audrey Christie, took a Summer holiday starting June 25 and will resume Aug. 28. De Liagre is understood to be planning to produce the play in London, Australia and Sweden, and it is not known when Warners will be permitted to release the film version when it is made.

Clark Will Confer With Independents

(Continued from page 1)

New York, and William Crockett of the Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Owners.

It is understood that Clark has promised to review the "final" proposals made by the distributors for a new consent decree with the exhibitor group. Clark has had these proposals for several weeks but has not presented them to Attorney General Francis Biddle because of the absence from Washington of one or the other.

Martin G. Smith, Allied States president, indicated here Wednesday that Allied States will seek to intervene in the New York anti-trust suit against the decree companies as a "friend of the court," in much the same manner as did the Government in the Goldman anti-trust action now pending in Philadelphia, should the Department of Justice recommend that the companies' present proposals for a new amended consent decree be accepted.

Companies Extend Pacts with SOPEG

(Continued from page 1)

was signed here yesterday in the office of Major L. E. Thompson of RKO is to keep the provisions of the old contracts in force until new pacts are negotiated between SOPEG and the five companies. The first meeting on the new contract was held yesterday. SOPEG's proposals for a new contract include demands for a closed shop, dues checkoff, three weeks' vacation periods after five years of service, discharge protection, improved grievance machinery, improved seniority and promotional procedure, and health and hospitalization benefits.

Money demands, retroactive to Oct. 1943, revolve around a classification system now being negotiated, with minimum and maximum scales for each labor grade, a guaranteed series of automatic progression increases, promotional guarantees, and a five percent cost-of-living balance on the "Little Steel" formula.

Clearance Complaint Dismissed in Dallas

Lewis B. Lefkowitz, arbitrator in the Dallas tribunal, has dismissed the clearance complaint of Eddie Joseph, operator of the Drive-In and Yank Theatres, Austin, Tex., against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association disclosed here yesterday.

Complainant had asked that the arbitrator set a reasonable clearance for Interstate Circuit's Paramount, State, Queens, Capitol, Varsity, Texas and Austin, all in Austin. Intervenors were Elmo Hegman, operator of the Ritz theatre, and R. S. Pryor, operator of the Cactus, both in Austin.

Variety to Golf Aug. 21

CINCINNATI, July 27.—The local Variety Club will hold its 10th annual golf tournament at Summit Hills Country Club on Aug. 21. The committee in charge includes William Onie, James J. Grady and Mike Greenberg.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



TROPICAL, TUNEFUL, SARONG-STUDDED "**RAINBOW ISLAND,**" STARRING LAMOUR-BRACKEN - LAMB, ANNOUNCED AS LEAD-OFF SHOW FOR PARAMOUNT'S 1944-45 SEASON. BIG TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL WILL BE FOLLOWED BY NORMANDY-LOCALED "TILL WE MEET AGAIN," THE BOOK-OF-THE-MONTH SENSATION "OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY," RADIO-FAMOUS "NATIONAL BARN DANCE," AND "DARK MOUNTAIN," IN FIRST NEW-SEASON BLOCK JUST SLATED FOR TRADE SHOWINGS AUG. 24 AND 25.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 2

THE first of a series of feature to be produced by James A. Fitzpatrick for Republic in Mexico wi be "Song of Mexico," according t Herbert J. Yates, chairman of th board and Fitzpatrick. Casting wi start immediately and shooting wi start Nov. 7.

•

Universal has signed Joan Harri son as a producer, effective Aug. 1 No assignment has been given her ye She made "Phantom Lady" for th studio last year.

•

Stanton Griffis, head of the film bureau of the Office of War Informa tion, on leave of absence from Para mount as executive committee head arrived here today.

•

David O. Selznick left here by trai today for a two-week vacation a Chesapeake Bay. He is expected t stop in New York en route.

•

William Dozier leaves Monday fo three weeks vacation in Mexico be fore assuming his duties as productio aide to Charles W. Koerner.

•

•

Jack H. Skirball engaged Richar Wallace to direct "Fickle Fortune," a vehicle for Fred Allen.

•

RKO has purchased "Man Alive," an original, to star Pat O'Brien.

Box-Office Boom At Midwest Resorts

(Continued from page 1)

Ritz, Tivoli and Uptown, business has taken a decided turn for the better, the increase being directly attributable to the vacation trade. Wartime conditions have made this nearby town a more popular vacation resort than ever before.

The Standard Circuit reports bright business at the Delavan (Wis.) Theatre, at the Bay, Strand, Packer and West in Green Bay, Wis., and the Geneva in Lake Geneva, Wis.

Same conditions hold true in the Bucklen, Elco, Orpheum and Roxy theatres in Elkhart, Ind., which is surrounded with popular vacation territory.

Charles Hogan, one of Standard's executives and booker of occasional stage shows playing some of the circuit's houses, reports that no stage shows are scheduled this Summer, due to the fine film business which the houses are doing.

Despite the tremendous war production activity still evidenced hereabouts, defense plant operators are encouraging vacations for employe benefits.

Frank A. Eaton, 57, Film Ad Executive

(Continued from page 1)

Foote, Cone and Belding several months ago.

He is survived by his widow, three sons, a sister and a brother, Jack, well known in film circles. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 20 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JULY 31, 1944 TEN CENTS

Schless Hits State Dept. on Spanish Policy

Says Operation There Impossible at Present

By CHARLES RYWECK

Strongly condemning the State Department's policy with respect to Spain, Robert E. Schless, Warners' general foreign manager, said at the weekend that free trade in that country is impossible so long as the Spanish government retains its present impositions on the American film industry. Schless further declared that "if those conditions were to be duplicated on a worldwide scale, the industry would not have any business left."



Robert E. Schless

Conditions unfavorable to the indus-

(*Continued on page 8*)

So. Calif. Theatres Owners Elect Board

Los Angeles, July 30.—The newly organized Southern California Theatre Owners Association over the weekend elected a board of directors consisting of George Bowser, Fox-West Coast Theatres; Mike Rosenberg, Principal Theatres; Gus Metzger, Ned Calvin, S. J. Leavitt, independents, with a vacancy left open for first-run representative to be named later. The or-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Industry Tribute at Register Closing

Tributes to the outstanding bond sales record achieved by the motion picture industry during the Fifth War Loan Drive were made by Robert J. O'Donnell, film industry national chairman; Nevil Ford, state chairman, War Finance Committee and Frederick Gehle, executive manager,

(*Continued on page 8*)

O'Donnell Thanks 5th Loan Workers

"The last gun in the motion picture industry's 'Fighting Fifth' War Loan Campaign has been fired, and the greatest of all drives is now history," Robert J. O'Donnell, national chairman, declared at the weekend, adding, "I wish it were possible for myself and the other members of the national committee to personally extend our grateful thanks and heartfelt appreciation to each and every member of the loyal 'Fighting Fifth' army—the 16,000 showmen of America and their staffs, the men and women in distribution who gave such generous cooperation in partnership with exhibition, and the members of the Hollywood Victory Committee and the energetic supporters of the campaign of the Hollywood studios. . . . To all of you we humbly say: NOBLY DONE!"

Jump in Chicago Theatre Ad Rate

Chicago, July 30.—The *Chicago Tribune* on Tuesday will raise the daily amusement advertising rate for loop theaters from 94 to 99 cents per line, C. W. Steffens, amusement department manager has announced. This is the first amusement rate boost for the *Tribune* in years and will affect only contract advertisers, but all loop houses are contract advertisers. The Sunday rate of $1.29 per line remains unchanged.

Warner Outlines 6-Point Postwar Film Message

Hollywood, July 30.—A six-point message that postwar motion pictures must carry to the American people and to the people of the world was outlined by Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Bros., on Friday in accepting a plaque from the Canadian Government in tribute to representatives of the film industry and himself for the production of "The Shining Future," which was made at the Warner Studio for use in Canada's Sixth War Loan. The presentation took



Jack L. Warner

(*Continued on page 8*)

Exhibitors Approve Wm. Rodgers Policy

The Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, through James L. Stern, president, have endorsed the new subsequent-run policy of M-G-M, as recently enunciated by William F. Rodgers, distribution vice-president.

"Not only have you offered the solution of our most pressing buying problems, covering percentages, preferred playing time and product shortage, but have once again paved the way for others to follow," Stern states in a letter sent to Rodgers at the weekend.

Republic Plans Own Sales Setup in Europe: Goodman

Republic, which prior to the outbreak of war in 1939 distributed its product in Europe through local franchise holders, plans to establish its own sales distribution setup on the Continent in the postwar, according to Morris Goodman, vice-president in charge of the company's foreign distribution.

The foreign distribution organization will parallel Republic's domestic sales organization, with exchanges being established in principal European cities.

Goodman, who plans to make a survey of Europe with a view to determining exchange cities, declared here yesterday: "What we do after the war in Europe will be determined by an actual survey on the ground." Evincing keen interest in penetrating the Continent commercially, he said: "We plan to expand our foreign organization on a world-wide basis as far as circumstances permit."

As the first step in expansion of its

(*Continued on page 6*)

WPB Lifting Projector Ban Aug. 15

Full Production Looms Where Labor Available

Washington, July 30.—Total or at least partial lifting of War Production Board restrictions on the manufacture of projection equipment looms for Aug. 15 with the drawing up here of a list of 71 items tentatively set for resumed civilian output beginning on that date.

Officials made clear, however, that there would be no automatic lifting of the "L. and M. Orders" (limitation and conservation) but that each manufacturer could apply for individual treatment. In most instances the local WPB offices will be allowed to grant an appeal if they have determined that material and labor are available above and beyond what are necessary for war production. Projection equipment is listed as L-325 among the approximately 400 orders now in effect. Also on the new relaxation list are domes-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Armour Is Named Aide to Schine

Reginald Armour, for many years a foreign department executive for RKO Radio Pictures, has been appointed executive assistant to J. Myer Schine, president of Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., with headquarters at Gloversville, N. Y., it was learned at the weekend. It is understood that the post is a newly created one and involves no other changes in the Schine

(*Continued on page 8*)

Hopper to Manage M-G-M Studios

Hollywood, July 30.—Harold Hopper, head of the motion picture division and photographic section in the U. S. Consumers' Durable Goods branch of the War Production Board, will join the M-G-M Studio tomorrow as general manager.

A company statement at the weekend said Hopper will take over the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

A. MONTAGUE, Columbia general sales manager, arrived in New York from the Coast over the weekend.

•

W. H. WORKMAN, M-G-M Minneapolis branch manager, and W. E. "Doc" BANFORD, manager of the company's Chicago branch, arrive here today from their respective territories. LEROY BICKEL, MGM Dallas manager, and JACK C. REVILLE, Oklahoma City head, left for their offices over the weekend.

•

MRS. PAULINE JOHNSON, executive secretary for J. H. Cooper, president of Standard Theatres, Inc., in Oklahoma City has resumed her duties after a six-months' absence on the West Coast, where she resided with her husband until he left for overseas duty.

•

HENRY L. NATHANSON, president of Regal Films, Ltd., M-G-M Canadian affiliate, and TED J. GOULD, general sales manager, are due from Toronto for New York home conferences sometime during the week.

•

BRUCE BALABAN, son of A. J. Balaban, operator of the Roxy, will begin his industry career in late August or September, by ushering at the house before resuming school.

•

GARY COOPER will arrive in New York early next month for a short vacation combined with business in connection with his new production enterprise.

•

ALFRED L. FINESTONE, Paramount trade publicist, left over the weekend for a vacation in the Missouri Ozarks and Colorado.

Zukor Testimony in Hillside Case Today

Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of Paramount, will be given a pre-trial examination today in the Hillside Amusement Corp. $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies, which is set tentatively for trial in Fall. Today's testimony will be in the offices of Hays, Podell and Shulman, plaintiff's counsels.

Examination of Barney Balaban, Paramount president, is scheduled for Aug. 10; and Will H. Hays, who gave five weeks of testimony in May and June, will be questioned again in September.

Southwest Exhibitors Mull Decree Tuesday

LOS ANGELES, July 30.—Discussions of the consent decree, the Office of Civilian Requirement's new theatre building program, and high film rentals are matters on the agenda of the annual meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona, scheduled to be held Tuesday at the organization's headquarters here. Also, officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE M-G-M approach to a basic sales policy to be applicable to the vast majority of theatres with which it does business is fundamentally so fair and simple that the greatest surprise it occasions is that it was not developed years ago and that it is not in universal use within the industry today.

W. F. Rodgers describes the company's selling policy as being based upon the individual theatre's ability to pay. Wisely applied, such a policy not only can be made to result in the fairest possible playing terms for exhibitors but, at the same time, can accomplish the equally important objective of realizing for the producer-distributor the nearest possible approximation of his share in his pictures' earnings in every engagement. That is the fundamental aim of all picture buying and selling—to achieve the best possible results for buyer and seller.

Fundamentally, also, however, sales practices are the genesis of more than 90 per cent of the disagreements between exhibitors and distributors. Why and how this came to be so is a story well known to all in the industry. Responsibility for it appears to be fairly well divided between exhibitor and distributor. By and large it was a cycle that endeavored to offset the sorry results of one sharp deal by means of a deal just a little bit sharper.

The M-G-M plan is designed to put an end to all deals of that description. To make it workable M-G-M is not contenting itself simply with allocating terms to theatres on the basis of its vast files of information on past performances with every type of picture under every conceivable type of operating conditions. It is doing the far more difficult but certainly essential work of obtaining specific data on the earnings possibilities of thousands of individual theatres throughout the country with which it does, or hopes to do business. Qualified sales officials of the company are visiting theatres in their territories for this purpose. It is a painstaking endeavor that illustrates the earnestness of the company in its effort to devise a fair sales policy—fair to the exhibitor and fair to the company—and one which, at the same time, has to be done to insure the workability of the plan.

Hand in hand with its fundamental policy on sales terms, M-G-M through Rodgers announced last week that top bracket productions of the company could be played at flat rental, rather than on percentage, in subsequent situations which were described and that the company would not insist upon preferred playing time wherever a customer's circumstances indicate that it would be unreasonable to do so.

In addition, the company has inaugurated arrangements by which it will make a number of its out-of-release productions available to its customers who are confronted from time to time with product shortages because of extended first runs and numerically fewer releases on the market.

All of these measures, it may be said, go far toward the solution of some of the most pressing problems with which exhibitors are confronted today and about which they complain with the greatest frequency and emphasis. They are a direct approach to the elimination of perennial exhibitor - distributor grievances, where past industry fair trade practice programs but skirted them or theorized about them, and they reach into the realm of dollars and cents trading that cannot be touched even by a Federal consent decree, and into the making of sound exhibition contracts that no exhibitor organization can make for any one of its members.

It can be said that the current innovations in M-G-M sales policy are the result of years of study and effort on the part of the company's sales department. They are part of a pattern which came into being when Rodgers told exhibitor representatives at the final United Motion Picture Industry trade practice conference that the proposals then presented represented "only a minimum" of what some companies planned or were prepared to do.

Although thwarted in having the Umpi trade practice program put into industry-wide operation, it is apparent that its objectives have not been forgotten and are not being ignored. M-G-M's initial action opens up the bright prospect that similar moves may be undertaken by other distribution companies on their own and in the interests of greater industry harmony.

The government prohibited distributors from acting in concert within Umpi. There is nothing to prevent them from achieving Umpi's objectives separately, as M-G-M now is demonstrating.

Decision Expected In Momand Suit

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 30.—A decision in the old A. B. Momand anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. and 14 producer-distributors, expected before July 1, still is awaited from the court of Federal Judge Bowen Broaddus, of the western Oklahoma district.

Broaddus indicated early in June when a hearing on his tentative findings of fact and conclusions of law was held, that he would have his final opinion ready for delivery by July 1.

Charles B. Cochrane, attorney for Griffith, said today that no further word has been received regarding when the opinion could be expected. The suit, in which Momand sought damages totaling, with interest, over $6,000,000, was tried 18 months ago.

'Private Affair' Set For Overseas Premiere

M-G-M's "Marriage is a Private Affair" will have its world premiere Oct. 5 at an unnamed overseas base. Company branch office heads have been instructed to protect the date since the opening abroad will be advertised to the Armed Forces as the premiere.

The home office also disclosed at the weekend that four other 16 mm films are now playing the "Normandy Beachhead circuit," namely "A Guy Named Joe," "Meet the People," "See Here, Private Hargrove," and "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble." International's "Casanova Brown" will have its world premiere on the beachhead Aug. 8.

Nat'l Screen Service Gets 'U' Accessories

National Screen Service, which distributes advertising accessories for Paramount, RKO and M-G-M, will do the same for Universal under an arrangement announced by the latter company at the weekend.

Universal, although preparing its own advertising material up to now, in 1941 made with N55 a tentative deal that did not materialize. Negotiations were opened again recently because of the company's difficulty in handling the distribution individually under war conditions.

'Movie Pests' Seminar

The M-G-M Pete Smith short, "Movie Pests" will be screened at Hunter College here today in connection with a special discussion of audience behavior by Mrs. Jeanette W. Emrich's motion picture study class. Representatives of the industry, women's clubs and the press have been invited.

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Oh boy—
we've got

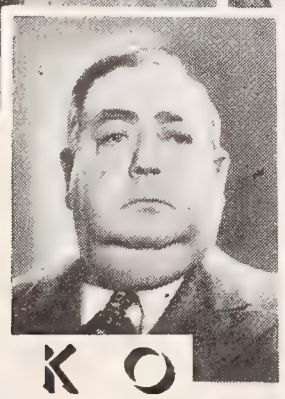
Heavenly Days

AT **RKO**

RADIO'S TOP COMICS TACKLE WASHINGTON!









McGee in a one-man war on Congress, to set things right for Mr. Average Citizen—with Molly in there pitching for the housewives! . . . Hilarious situations gagged and speeded and riotously enriched to give you one of the biggest of big-time laugh shows!



R K O RADIO PICTURES

PRODUCED BY ROBERT FELLOWS
DIRECTED BY HOWARD ESTABROOK
Screen Play by Howard Estabrook and Don Quinn

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FIGHT BY THE SIDE

Fibber McGee & Molly

Heavenly Days

with
EUGENE PALLETTE
GORDON OLIVER
RAYMOND WALBURN
BARBARA HALE
DON DOUGLAS
FRIEDA INESCORT
IRVING BACON
and the
KING'S MEN



Atlas Sale of RKO Stock Holding Was Largest July Deal

PHILADELPHIA, July 30. — Disposition by the Atlas Corp. of its 57,337-share block of Radio-Keith-Orpheum preferred stock as the largest of several transactions in motion picture company securities reported tonight by the Securities and Exchange Commission in its June summary. Atlas Corporation also sold one share of its common stock holdings, leaving it at the close of the month with 1,329,020 shares of common and 327,812 warrants for common.

In the same company, the SEC reported that Frederick L. Ehrman, through Lehman Brothers, bought and then re-sold 5,023 shares of preferred stock during the month, and L. Lawrence Green sold 1,000 shares of common, leaving him with 50 shares.

Officers and directors of Monogram Pictures picked up considerable of that company's common stock during June, the summary showed. Alton A. Brody, bought 4,000 shares, representing his entire holdings; Samuel Broidy bought 1,800 shares to give him a total of 5,600 shares; George D. Burrows, bought 200 shares his entire holding; William B. Hurlbut, Detroit, bought 700 shares through Monogram Pictures of Michigan, its entire holdings; Charles W. Trampe, Milwaukee, picked up 1,300 shares through Monogram Midwest Film Company, its entire holding; and Sam Wolf, who in May disposed of his entire holding of 1,000 shares, purchased 1,300 shares.

Montague Exchanges Warrants

In Columbia Pictures, Abraham Montague, acquired 2,000 shares of common stock in exchange for an equal number of warrants and sold 70 shares, leaving him with 2,036 shares of common and 5,880 warrants, and Abraham Schneider, disposed of 42 shares of common by gift, leaving him with 1,707 shares.

Purchase of 1,000 shares of Warner Brothers' common stock was reported by Morris Wolf, Philadelphia, giving him a total of 1,450 shares, and the sale of 500 shares of Trans Lux Corporation common was reported by Robert L. Daine, New York, leaving him with 500 shares.

A report on General Precision Equipment Corporation showed that Earle G. Hines, New York, sold 800 shares of capital stock, leaving him with 500 shares, and the Amerex Holding Corporation sold 200 shares held through the American Express Company, which had 13,400 shares left. The holding company also reported 50,719 shares held through the Rexport Corporation.

Reports on the stock interests of persons becoming officers or directors of registered companies showed that George N. Blatchford held no Monogram Pictures securities when he became an officer in the company July 7, and Robert S. Potter held no Trans Lux Corporation stock when he joined the directorate July 6, but L. Sherman Adams, Boston, held 500 shares of Twentieth Century-Fox common and Robert L. Clarkson held 100 shares when they become directors May 16. A belated report showed that Darryl F. Zanuck, held 42,130 shares of common when he became a 20th Century-Fox officer last Aug. 18.

WPB Lifting Ban On Projectors

(Continued from page 1)

tic watt-hour meters for radio and radar.

This is the fourth of the reconversion steps formulated by Donald M. Nelson, WPB chairman. Under it, there would be no lessening of the limitation on styles and models where simplification has been ordered or in the amount or weight of any material.

WMC May Relax Curbs on Manpower

WASHINGTON, July 30. — Over-all control of labor assumed by the War Manpower Commission July 1 has failed in its purpose of inducing workers to migrate to localities where their services are most urgently needed by war plants, it is disclosed by reports reaching Washington.

These reports indicate possibilities of the relaxation of restrictions by local boards in some areas in the near future. Because of the reluctance of workers to migrate at a time when many feel the end of the war to be near, compartively little labor is believed to have been drained from easy labor areas and local boards in such sections may be sympathetic to appeals of exhibitors and distributors for permission to employ new workers.

The shortage of labor which has been worrying war contractors for some time was disclosed last week also to be affecting essential civilian industries.

The War Production Board confronted with a manpower problem in the rubber industry sharply curtailed the August quota of heavy duty truck tires and set up a system of priorities under which few tires will be available for any but the most essential purposes. How seriously the WPB action will affect film deliveries was not revealed but it is believed that a majority of the trucks in that service are of the lighter types which can run on regular tires.

Trucks delivering films for theatres are given a Class 3 rating and those handling other supplies and equipment for places of amusement are in Class 4. However, the number of tires available for civilian distribution is so small that officials refused to state whether replacements would be available for such services in any number.

Humphries Is Named Phila. Sales Manager

PHILADELPHIA, July 30. — Staff changes in local film row include the promotion of William Humphries to the post of 20th Century-Fox sales manager, recently vacated by Al J. Davis who resigned to become Monogram's branch manager here. Succeeding Humphries is Howard Davis. Herb Gillis, former booker, will take over the Harrisburg sales territory and Harry Dressler succeeds him at his former place. At Monogram Sam Palen has been promoted to the post of sales manager.

Rennie on Canada Board

TORONTO, July 30.—M. S. Rennie, formerly in the automobile business in Detroit, has been named to an executive post on the National Film Board of Canada by film commissioner John Grierson. Rennie succeeds Wesley Greene, recently transfered to the NFB distribution branch.

Republic Plans Own Sales Setup Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

European business, Republic has joined other distributing companies in planning to dub its product in French and Italian. First two slated for the dubbing process, which will be done in this country, probably on the Coast, will be "In Old Oklahoma" and "The Lady and the Monster," Republic's foreign sales head stated. "People in Europe won't be interested in pictures with a war theme," he said, indicating that the company's escapist product will undergo the dubbing process.

Preparatory work now under way will be the beginning of "an extensive program of dubbing," Goodman said. Other pictures which will be dubbed in French and Italian are: "Hit Parade of 1943," "Atlantic City," "Brazil" and probably a few of the top Rogers productions, he said.

Goodman recently returned from a three-week trip to Mexico, where he completed arrangements to set up a Republic branch office in Mexico City, with Carl Ponedel in charge. He revealed that the first Spanish film of a series, which James A. Fitzpatrick will produce for the company there will start shooting in October. A Mexican director will handle the assignment, which may be filmed at Clasa studio, Mexico City. The film will be based on an original by Fitzpatrick and will contain music. Republic will handle world distribution, Goodman said.

Hopper to Manage M-G-M Studios

(Continued from page 1)

duties performed by Edgar J. Mannix during the past few years, and that the appointment will permit more time for production activities on the part of Mannix, Louis B. Mayer, Ben Thau, Sam Katz, Al Lichtman, L. K. Sidney, J. J. Cohn, M. J. Siegel, J. K. McGuinness and Harry Rapf. The announcement followed a week of conferences between Nicholas M. Schenck, president, and studio executives.

Hopper was formerly vice-president of Majestic Pictures and was also associated with Darmout, and with Warren Doane Productions. He has spent 20 years in the industry, filling, among other posts, the presidency of Cinema Mercantile Co., and Fidelity Securities Corp., the latter of which helps finance productions.

Screen Actors Guild Names Candidates

HOLLYWOOD, July 30.—The Screen Actors Guild has announced nominations for the annual election of officers, which takes place in September. The nominations, usually tantamount to election, include George Murphy for president, Paul Harvey first vice-president, Walter Abel second, Lorraine Day third, Lucille Gleason recording secretary and Russell Hicks treasurer. Lena Horne, Gene Kelly, Dorothy Tree were nominated to serve as directors completing the unexpired terms vacated by resignations. Twenty-two candidates were nominated for 11 other positions on the board.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 30

M-G-M announced "Lucky Baldwin," biography of the famous Western character, to co-star Clark Gable and Lana Turner, probably as the former's first vehicle following his retirement from the service. Miss Turner co-starred with Gable in his last, "Somewhere I'll Find You." Everett Riskin has been assigned to produce. M-G-M also announced a new series of 10 one-reelers to present stage and radio stars. The first will be "Masterpieces" and stars Carlos Ramirez and Lucile Norman.

•

Jesse L. Lasky, Warner Bros. producer, who underwent a minor operation in the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, returns to his home on Monday. He will rest for a week before reporting back on the Burbank lot.

•

Jane Wyman's contract was renewed by Jack L. Warner, executive producer. Her next starring vehicles will be "A Night at Tony Pastor's" and "Honeymoon Freight."

•

W. R. Frank entrained for Minneapolis and will stay a fortnight. Upon his return he will complete plans for his next production.

•

Joseph B. Polonsky severed an 18-month connection with David O. Selznick's publicity department. He is expected to announce a new affiliation shortly.

Finds Tri-States Was Damaged by $55,186

OMAHA, July 30.—Tri-States Theatre Corp. suffered $55,186 damages between Nov. 1, 1939, and March 21, 1942, through Ralph D. Goldberg's operation of the State theatre here in competition with the company's Orpheum and Omaha Theatres, according to a finding returned by Special Master Herman Aye in Federal District Court this week.

The finding was in connection with a suit brought against Goldberg by Tri-States, claiming that when the company leased the Omaha from the World Realty Co. in 1934, Goldberg agreed not to operate the State for 10 years. When it was reopened, Tri-States obtained an injunction, later upheld in the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Goldberg announced recently that remodeling was under way at the State, which he planned to reopen in September. Last week he added the Broadway Theatre at Council Bluffs to his chain of houses.

Suspend 'U' Voting Trust Certificates

The New York Curb Exchange has announced that the voting trust certificates for the common stock of Universal will be suspended from dealings starting tomorrow. The voting trust agreement ends Aug. 31, but holders of the certificates have been requested to surrender them as early as possible to immediately receive in exchange the common stock represented.

War Bulletin!
Have Your Bond Sales Figures Ready
for 5th War Loan Report Blank

BOXOFFICE
FILM DAILY
M. P. HERALD
VARIETY
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
DAILY VARIETY
THE INDEPENDENT
SHOWMEN'S T. R
THE EXHIBITOR

All HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO!

No. 3- Boxoffice says:

"Audiences will laugh until they cry... Triumph for Preston Sturges ...Will attract capacity patronage following paeans of critical and word-of-mouth praise."

Paramount's

HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO

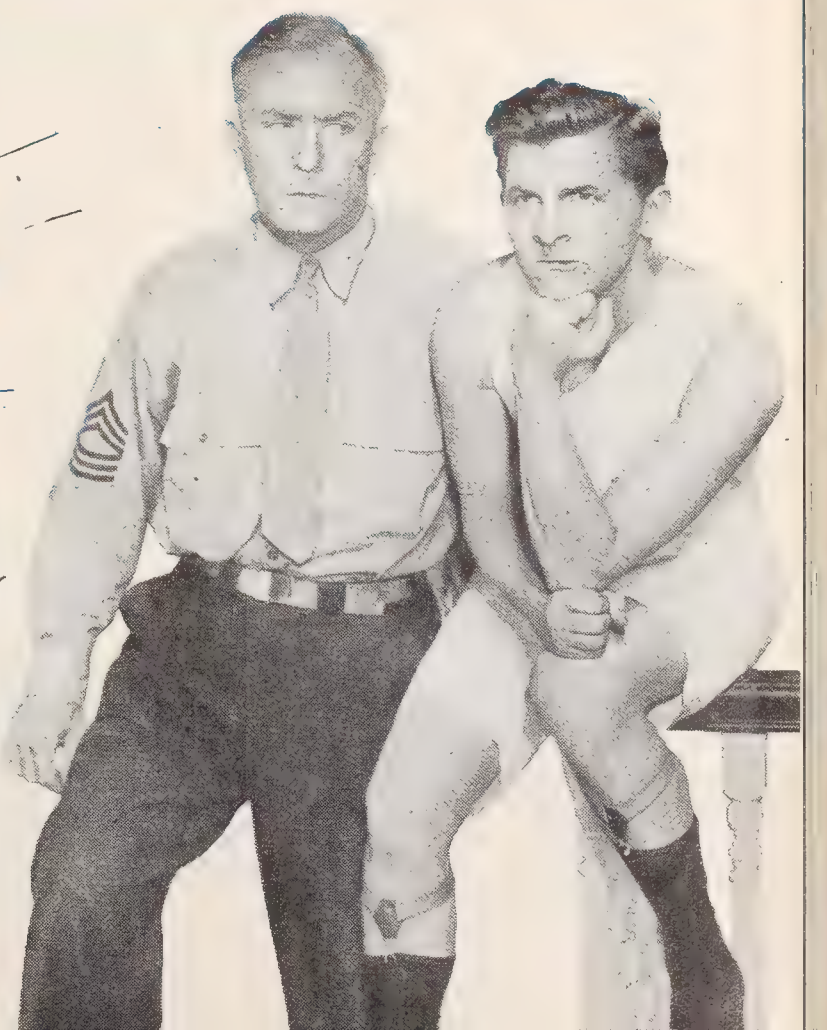
More Miraculous Than "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek"!

starring

Eddie BRACKEN with Ella Raines

and **Wm. DEMAREST • Raymond Walburn • Franklin Pangborn**
Elizabeth Patterson • Bill Edwards

Written and Directed by PRESTON STURGES



Warner Outlines 6-Point Postwar Film Message

(*Continued from page* 1)

place at a luncheon of the local division of the War Activities Committee at the Roosevelt hotel here.

Declaring that the tremendous role played by the screen in this war will make it one of the most potent postwar forces for freedom, Warner outlined the six points as follows: Every one of us is responsible for safeguarding our great American heritage of freedom. Every one of us must remember that freedom, if taken for granted, can be lost. We must be quick to recognize the forces that will destroy freedom. We must be physically able to put down those forces if they attack us. We must be morally able to keep them from developing within our country. We must never forget that the world cannot exist half-slave and half-free.

"On behalf of the artists who participated in the making of "The Shining Future," I am both happy and proud to accept this plaque," said Warner. "I know I speak for every one of them when I say that we regard it as an honor and a privilege to have been of service to our good friend and neighbor, the Dominion of Canada.

Duties of American Films

"Postwar American motion pictures must keep the lessons of the war alive," he said in conclusion, "and as Anthony Eden pointed out, we are fighting not just to win a fight but to win a world in which our children and their children can know the security of peace and freedom. That struggle will go on even after the Axis has been defeated. It may go on for ten years after the war."

Departing from his prepared speech, Warner said: "In the postwar world, motion pictures must have the same freedom of expression as is guaranteed the press and the spoken word. We must be constantly on the alert to resist all forms of dictation or attempted regulation. We must refuse to be intimidated from expressing our honest convictions on the screen."

Col. Edward L. Munson, chief of the Army Pictorial Service, declared film distribution to the armed forces overseas was of vital importance to postwar America, and paid high tribute to the film industry's gift of 16-mm prints.

Col. Munson, just back from England and Normandy, said, "We have long recognized that motion pictures, perhaps second only to mail from home, represent the greatest single boost to the morale of the men overseas."

Don Henshaw, speaking for the Canadian Government, paid glowing tribute to the American industry for cooperation prior to and since the United States entry into the war; presented 24 plaques to individuals connected with making "The Shining Future," and pledged Canada's enduring relationship which he said makes our nations "one people."

OWI's Stanton Griffis said the OWI's job was superbly done up to now, but new problems loom in dealing with isolationism, internationalism, money markets, and related subjects. Griffis said OWI was stymied on handling these matters, and invited Hollywood suggestions for treatment.

Francis Harmon, who presided as the WAC representative, prefaced introduction of each speaker with facts, statistics, pertaining to individuals' accomplishment in the war effort, outlining a six-point program for postwar films.

Other speakers were Colonel Frank Capra, Robert O'Donnell and Mary C. McCall, Jr.

Among those attending were: Nate Blumberg, Samuel Goldwyn, D. W. Griffith, Will H. Hays, W. Ray Johnston, Col. Jason Joy, Sol Lesser, E. J. Mannix, Watterson Rothacker, Bert Allenberg, George Bagnall, I. E. Chadwick, D. A. Doran, Walter Wanger, Cary Grant, Gordon Hollingshead, Rodney Pantages, Taylor M. Mills, Ken Thomson, Cliff Work, Loyd Wright, Lieut. Com. Eugene Zukor and Ben Wallerstein.

Schless Hits State Dept. On Spanish Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

try which Schless cited to support his contentions were: excessive import duties imposed by the Spanish government; the tax placed on top of production costs sustained in dubbing American product, and the obligations to produce or purchase Spanish films for export to the U. S. in order to bring in American product.

Recalling that Warners liquidated its German company in the first week of Hitler rule, Schless emphatically said "that as long as the present Spanish regime continues we don't intend to go in." There has not been a Warner film shown commercially in Spain since 1936, he said. The films exhibited at the recent Barcelona Fair, Schless said, were shown without the element of profit.

Schless charged that control of raw stock which kept the Spanish film industry going was in the hands of the Franco government and not, as believed, dispensed by American government representatives in Spain.

The unfreezing of American dollar funds in Spain would not materially profit Warners, he said.

Indicating that Warners was in a favorable position to reenter the European markets as soon as the Overseas Film Bureau of the Office of War Information should relinquish control, Schless stated: "We have more French and Italian dubbed product than the rest of the industry put together."

Warners' foreign manager revealed that his company was operating its own offices in French North Africa and showing films with superimposed French titles in that area, with product dubbed in French soon to be shown. The French Provisional government, he said, is extending film companies complete cooperation and commercial freedom.

Schless disclosed that Warner Bros. is studying the creation of an international corporation similar to that of Loew's and the newly-created Paramount company. The Warner foreign setup, he stated, was such that basically his company already had such an arrangement, but not so completely coordinated as the other two companies.

The Warner foreign organization which existed prior to the war will be restored in peacetime insofar as possible with former personnel, he said. The company's British studio at Teddington, England, recently destroyed by a robot bomb, will be rebuilt as soon as feasible, Schless said. The output of this studio will not be limited to distribution in England, but will be pointed also to the U. S. market in the future, although stories will continue to have an English locale.

Warners is interested in the acquisition of theatres in Europe, Schless said, and has made a start in countries not in the war. The company will erect a 2,000-seat theatre and office building on a choice property in Mexico City which it now owns, he said.

Schless declared that strong film industries in the larger European countries would not hurt American distribution but would serve to stimulate native audiences into attending the better American films. Revenues derived from the showing of only worth-while American product in these countries will amount to more than ever realized before with good and indifferent films shown, he believes.

Warners' Spanish dubbing unit on the Coast is expected to be in operation in a few months with the company anticipating no difficulty in proceeding with a smooth operation. "My Reputation," with Barbara Stanwyck, and George Brent, and "Objective Burma," both 1944-45 product will be the first dubbed, Schless said.

Southern Cal. Theatre Owners Elect Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

ganizer, attorney Albert J. Law, named executive director, was empowered to vote with the board in case of a tie. The board meets next week to set a budget, select permanent quarters, probably in the Gore Building on film row.

Capt. Lew Mentlik Killed in Action

Captain Lew Mentlik, 29 years old, former New York editorial representative for *The Exhibitor,* died in action in Normandy on June 14, members of his family here were advised by the War Department at the weekend. Capt. Mentlik previously had been reported missing in action.

Capt. Mentlik entered the Army in February, 1941. At the time of his death he was attached to the 102nd Glider Company. He leaves a wife and one child.

Armour Is Named Aide to Schine

(*Continued from page* 1)

circuit executive staff.

Armour joined RKO in 1933 and spent about four years establishing Far Eastern offices for the company's foreign department. In 1937 he was made European general manager for RKO with headquarters in Paris. He returned to this country in 1940 and served for a time as executive assistant to George J. Schaefer, then president of RKO. He subsequently served for about a year as British representative for Walt Disney.

Industry Tribute at Register Closing

(*Continued from page* 1)

WFC at ceremonies that marked the closing of the giant cash register on Times Square Friday evening.

Erected under the auspices of the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry, of which Charles C. Moskowitz is Metropolitan area chairman, the giant indicator proved a greater bond sales agency than anyone anticipated, having since its dedication on June 13th until July 27th, sold 21,134 bonds with a maturity value of $2,471,624.

The program, held under the direction of the Women's Army Corps, featured the WAC 401st Army Service Forces 25-piece band from Fort Hamilton, and Sgt. Walter Gross, former NBC conductor, and his Camp Shanks "About Face" Orchestra. Lieut. Irma Bouton, recently returned from overseas, where she saw service in North Africa, also appeared. Sgt. Gerald Labell and Pvt. Henry J. Cress, recently returned from the combat areas, made bond sale appeals.

Oscar A. Doob, Campaign Director, presided in the absence, due to a death in the family, of Chairman Moskowitz. Edward C. Dowden, director of special events, was master of ceremonies.

Bausch and Lomb Profit $529,497

ROCHESTER, N. Y., July 30.—Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., makers in peacetime of precision lenses and other equipment widely used in the motion picture industry, reported net earnings of $529,497 for the healf-year ending June 30. This was a decrease of $156,-021 from the corresponding period of last year. Decrease in earnings was attributed to increased cost of production.

After deducting $118,295 for preferred stock dividends, earnings were equal to 98 cents a common share as compared with $1.35 for the same 1943 period. After deduction of preferred dividends and $210,364 representing payment of 50 cents a share on common, $328,659 was carried to earned surplus for a total of $5,934,066.

Sales for the period amounted to $23,376,960, compared with $23,409,-722. in the 1943 half-year.

Local 306 Appeals Century Verdict

Attorneys representing the Empire State Motion Picture Projectionists Union, which was merged over a year ago with the IATSE New York projectionists' Local 306, have filed an appeal from a court decision rendered by Judge William R. Wilson last May in Kings County Supreme Court in favor of Century Circuit of Brooklyn and Queens.

Century sought to prevent the merger and was upheld in preventing the dissolution of Empire as a corporation for the duration of its contract with the corporation which has almost seven years to run.

"Americans All"

—Through your theatre

...will create a greater sense of unity in your community...

★

JOSEPH BERNHARD
Warner Bros.

"It is constructive and informative entertainment in the best sense."

★

HARRY BRANDT
Brandt Theatres

★

"Every exhibitor in America should make it his business to give 'Americans All' the longest playing time possible."

★

ARTHUR MAYER
Rialto Theatre

★

" 'Americans All' is a picture for all Americans . . . I trust all American Theatres will show it!"

★

MARTIN QUIGLEY
Quigley Publications

★

" 'Americans All' is an interesting outline of the problem and should receive a wide showing to exert a helpful influence."

★

BEN SHLYEN
Boxoffice

★

" 'Americans All' is enlightening while serving as entertainment . . . Every sound-thinking American showman should proudly exhibit this film on his screen."

★

ABEL GREEN
Variety

★

"A must for every exhibitor . . . it s as topical as the weather!"

★

EVERETT R. CLINCHY
National Conference of Christians and Jews

★

"Will exert a constructive influence wherever it is shown, in producing it The March of Time has rendered a patriotic service."

★

RICHARD E. GUTSTADT
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith

★

"You are to be congratulated upon 'Americans All'. A courageous and forthright film."

★

The July release of

The March of Time

A 20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE

'Gaslight' at Three in L.A. Gets $50,600

LOS ANGELES, July 30.—"Gaslight," second M-G-P picture to play the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz threesome, prospered to the extent of $50,600 in its first week; the three houses average $33,100. The Paramount duo took out "The Hitler Gang" after four days of its second week, starting "And the Angels Sing" on Monday with expectations of getting $48,500, which compares to a $31,300 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 26:

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $11,200).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN — (1,560) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $19,500).
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,250. (Average: $6,200).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.) 2nd week.
"Stars on Parade" (Col.) 7 days.
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $14,900).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.) 2nd week.
"Stars on Parade" (Col.) 7 days.
PANTAGES — (2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $17,700).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $11,000).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $8,700).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $10,500).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood) — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,036. (Average: $17,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown) — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,135. (Average: $18,700).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern)—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,428. (Average: $15,200).

Eaton Services to Be Held Today

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 this morning from Campbell's, Madison Avenue and 81st St., for Frank A. Eaton, former film account executive at Foote, Cone & Belding Advertising Agency, and one-time advertising-publicity manager for RKO Pathe News, who died last Thursday of a heart attack.

Film, radio and advertising executives are expected to attend the services. Burial arrangements have not yet been determined.

Reviews

"Heavenly Days"

(RKO-Radio)

FIBBER McGEE and Molly, favorites at the nation's radio audiences, beam their appealing, homespun, small-town philosophy and humor on our reputed national apathy to participating in our government and appeal for support of the war effort on the home front in "Heavenly Days." Eugene Pallette, Gordon Oliver, Raymond Walburn, and Don Douglas lend amusing support and the result is that this film, produced by Robert Fellows and directed by Howard Estabrook, is timely and thoroughly entertaining and should gain many fans for Marion and Jim Jordan, better known as Fibber McGee and Molly.

Estabrook supplied the original story and collaborated with Don Quinn on the screen play. It serves to yank Fibber McGee and Molly from their complacent existence in "Wistful Vista," where Washington is a place to be avoided at all costs, right into the heart of the nation's capitol. On the way there, McGee and Molly provide a visual example of how to cooperate with the Office of Defense Transportation in providing room for traveling servicemen. McGee also inspires Dr. Gallup to conduct a poll for the country's average man since nobody, McGee included, even though he is eventually designated as such, appears to want to accept that designation. McGee creates quite a stir in Washington, where the usual complications follow, and eventually both McGee and Molly return to "Wistful Vista" to rouse their friends to their obligations as citizens. Pallette is a blustering Senator with whom McGee comes to grips; Walburn is a local politician who almost gets elected because of the apathy of the voters; Douglas is Dr. Gallup; Charles Troubridge and Frieda Inescort are relatives who bring the pair to Washington on some post-war plan. The King's Men, singing group of radio fame, provide some musical background. It all adds up to diverting entertainment.

Running time, 71 minutes. "G."* Release in Block Seven.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

"Atlantic City"

(Republic)

"ATLANTIC CITY" is a lavishly produced musical that attempts to cram some of the colorful history of the seashore resort into a simple backstage story of an ambitious young promoter and his patient actress wife. Constance Moore supplies charm and songs as the actress wife; Brad Taylor is the aggressive young promoter; Charles Grapewin is his understanding and tolerant father, who owns one of the local hotels, and Jerry Colonna is an ex-vaudevillian who casts his lot with Taylor. The slender story provides an opportunity for specialities by such venerable old vaudevillians as Joe Frisco, Belle Baker, Al Shean of Gallagher and Shean fame, Buck and Bubbles and Gus Van of the team of Van and Schenck. Appearing briefly in musical sequences are Paul Whiteman and his orchestra and Louis Armstrong and his band. With such an aggregation of well-known talent, this is a film that is bound to do well at the box office.

The original story, which is credited to Arthur Caesar, with Doris Gilbert, Frank Gill, Jr., and George Carleton Brown supplying the screen play, covers the period between 1915 and 1922. It is set against a background of the hotel which has become a haven for vaudevillians who are temporarily out of funds. Taylor's ambition is to put Atlantic City on the map as a vacation mecca. This he accomplishes by promoting the idea of bringing Broadway to Atlantic City, making the town the convention spot of America and finally introducing the idea of yearly national beauty contests. While he is accomplishing this, his fortunes both with Miss Moore, whom he marries and neglects, and in real estate, where he eventually goes broke, have their ups and downs.

Associate producer Albert J. Cohen has given this musical entertainment an attractive setting. Of the old songs spotted throughout the film, "By the Sea" and "On a Sunday Afternoon" provide the musical background for appealing production numbers. Ray McGarey directed and Seymour Felix staged the musical numbers.

Running time, 89 minutes. "G."* No release date set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Roy Mitchell Dies

CANAAN, Conn., July 30.—Roy Mitchell, 60, one time director of motion pictures for the Canadian Department of Public Information, and recently a dramatic instructor at New York University, died here at the weekend.

Gregory District Head

W. E. Gregory has been named district manager of the Altec Service Seattle branch, it was disclosed at the week-end. Gregory, with Altec since its inception, replaces Barclay Ardell, resigned.

'Going My Way' Is Still in Lead in 'Frisco on $37,000

SAN FRANCISCO, July 30.—In its second week, "Going My Way" at the Fox drew top gross here of $37,000. Grosses at all other houses continued strong.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 25-27.

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,200. (Average: $15,000).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Are These Are Parents?" (Mono.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $37,000. (Average: $26,000).
"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney reissue)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Home in Indiana" (Para.)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,306) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $11,000).

'Way' Passes Par by $10,500 Overage

CINCINNATI, July 30.—"Going My Way" is giving the RKO Palace the highest gross in many weeks with an estimated $24,000, which is $10,500 over par, while "The Story of Dr. Wassell" will do approximately $17,000 at RKO's Capitol. "The Mask of Dimitrios" coupled with "Louisiana Hayride" will bring the RKO Lyric around $9,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 26-29:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Call of the Jungle" (Mono.)
"Tucson Raiders" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,400).
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
"West of the Rio Grande" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average: $800).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
RRKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week, moveover from two weeks at the Palace. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $13,500).

Landwehr Promoted

Douglas Taussig, manager of the Bardavon Theatre, Poughkeepsie, is now house manager at Capitol here on Broadway. Herman Landwehr, manager of the Capitol, has been promoted to managing director.

Movies...Vital Records of War

THESE "stills" are typical of the motion pictures made by our Armed Forces. Photographic units, with which men from the motion picture industry are prominently identified, provide essential information of immediate tactical, technical, or strategic value. And these first-hand motion pictures have tremendous morale value when released for public showing.



★ (Left) Invading the Marshalls.
Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.



★ (Below) Advancing at Tarawa.
Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo.

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N.Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD



TOMORROW

...the most important world premiere in 50 years of motion picture entertainment will take place when 20th Century-Fox proudly presents DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S triumphant and stirring production,

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

at 8 o'clock in the evening at the

ROXY, N.Y.

operating under special roadshow policy for this engagement.

Directed by HENRY KING · Written by LAMAR TROTTI

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 21 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1944 TEN CENTS

July Grosses Well Ahead Of Last Year

Weekly Average, Near $16,000, Tops June

Evidence of continued box-office prosperity is furnished by a round-up of MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents' reports, which show average weekly grosses per theatre in some 145 key first-run spots to have been $1,421 higher during July of this year than during July of last year, with $15,993 tabulated for the 1944 month, against $14,572 for the corresponding period in 1943.

While business thus maintains its new high levels, a possible trend toward closing the gap between the two years may be noted in the fact that July's rate of gain was little more than half as large as that of this past June, which registered $2,789 better than the June preceding.

As is normal for the season, this

(*Continued on page* 20)

20th-Fox Meet at Astor Tomorrow

Plans for production expansion by 20th Century-Fox are expected to be revealed at sales conferences which will be attended by all company district and branch managers in the U. S. except the six West Coast-Rocky Mountain offices, home office sales executives and department heads at the Hotel Astor here tomorrow and Thursday.

Heading the speakers will be president Spyros P. Skouras, distribution vice-president Tom Connors, and pro-

(*Continued on page* 22)

Monogram Names 27 for 6 Months

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—Monogram has set a detailed month-by-month lineup of 27 releases for the next half year, according to W. Ray Johnston, president, who added that, as a new departure in the industry, he will announce titles and dates of the company's full year product at the annual

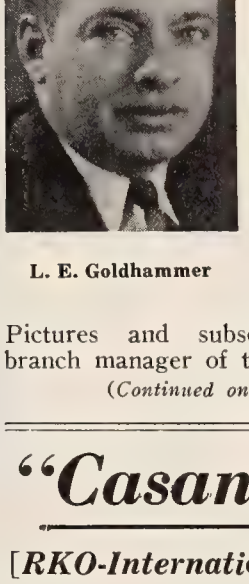
(*Continued on page* 22)

Ezell to Represent Theatres in OCR

Dallas, July 31.—Claude Ezell of Underwood and Ezell of Underwood and Ezell, Texas drive-in theatres, will fly from Dallas to Washington Aug. 6, to take a dollar-a-year post with the Office of Civilian Requirements, representing theatres in the War Production Board. Donald R. Longman, head of OCR, is expected to make announcement in Washington shortly concerning Ezell's duties in the new post.

Goldhammer Heads FC Distribution

L. E. (Nickie) Goldhammer has been appointed vice-president and general sales manager of Film Classics, according to an announcement made yesterday by George Hirliman, president.



L. E. Goldhammer

Goldhammer, who resigned over the weekend as Midwest district manager of RKO Radio Pictures, will start his new duties for Film Classics immediately. He started his film career with First National Pictures and subsequently became branch manager of the St. Louis and

(*Continued on page* 22)

'SYWA', 'Dragon Seed', Score in 2nd B'way Week

The prolonged heat spell, while having some effect generally on grosses at the downtown New York first-run theatres this week, is having no effect on the receipts of "Since You Went Away" at the Capitol and "Dragon Seed" at the Radio City Music Hall. Both films are continuing to do capacity business which saw the first week's gross of "SYWA" and a Gene Krupa stage show at the Capitol reach over $90,000 and last week the receipts of "Dragon Seed" and a stage show at the Music Hall also surpass early estimates of $125,000 to hit $127,600.

With $75,000 recorded on the first four days of the second week ending Sunday night, the Music Hall expects $125,000. Similarly with $56,000 taken in, the Capitol expects close to $90,000.

"Step Lively," RKO's second Frank

(*Continued on page* 19)

'Wilson' Premiere Tonight at Roxy

The world premiere tonight of 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson," a Darryl F. Zanuck production at the Roxy here, will be attended by distribution executives, exhibitors, stars, civic leaders and newspaper representatives. Some opening night tickets have been set aside for public sale.

Eight metropolitan stations will broadcast the event from the Roxy lobby from 8.45 to 9 p. m., including WHN, WMCA, WNEW and WINS. George Jessel who will be master of ceremonies, and Ethel Colby of

(*Continued on page* 19)

"Casanova Brown"

[***RKO-International***]

Hollywood, July 31

INTERNATIONAL'S first bid for fame and fortune emerges as one of the funniest films of the year. It's a civilized picture, directed by Sam Wood and written and produced by Nunnally Johnson with intelligence and finesse, the underlying theme—that of a father's love for his child—gives it heart-warming substance.

The story, which Johnson wrote from a play by Floyd Dell and Thomas Mitchell, concerns a soft-hearted and somewhat soft-headed young professor of literature who, on a trip to New York, elopes with a college student. Upon being introduced to her parents next morning, he manages to insult her mother, and to burn down the family homestead. The mother, a firm believer in astrology, separates the young couple on the ground that the position of the stars at the time of the marriage predicts nothing but disaster. The marriage is annulled and, believing that his bride no longer

(*Continued on page* 19)

Distributors To Open New Units Abroad

Films for Army Creates New Native Audiences

Popularity of American films sent to our troops in every war theatre in the world, and their simultaneous or subsequent showing to natives, hundreds of thousands of whom had never seen motion pictures before, has created what is described as tremendous possibilities for foreign markets far greater than before World War II.

Consequently, it has been learned here, foreign distribution heads of several distributing companies have bene studying the possibility of adding many new branch offices in foreign countries in which they were not located before the war, when they resume world

(*Continued on page* 22)

Eberle Quits Para. For International

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—Edward Eberle today resigned as Paramount production manager to join International Pictures as executive in charge of production operations, replacing Harold Lewis who resigned today due to reason of health. Walter Thompson, who recently was named head of International's operations committee, will resume his former post as executive assistant to William Goetz.

Hopper Continuing Mercantile Corp.

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—Harold Hopper, who today became general manager of the M-G-M studios, will continue to operate the Cinema Mercantile Corp., which owns and may continue also in the presidency of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas. Hopper said he was undecided about relinquishing the MPSA post but indicated his new duties would not conflict with his merchandising activities.

It is understood that Hopper accept-

(*Continued on page* 22)

Strict Juvenile Ban In Polio Epidemic

ROCHESTER, N. Y., July 31.—Spread of infantile paralysis through Western and Southern New York has brought threats of police action against theatre managers in at least one epidemic center if they do not bar children from admission.

The police department of Hornell was asked by the city's board of health to observe compliance of theatres with an order banning all children under 16 from public gathering places. The Hornell action is believed to have been taken only to emphasize the order, as no case of non-cooperation by theatre men has been reported.

An abrupt drop in theatre attendance has been noted in both Steuben County, where 68 cases of polio have been reported, and in Chemung County, where there have been 71. Hornell, Corning and Elmira are the cities worst hit.

May Lift Carolina Polio Child Ban

CHARLOTTE, July 31.—Local theatre owners have been given the prospect of an early lifting of a city health department ban on the entry of children under 15 to public places. The ban was ordered late in June because of an infantile paralysis epidemic that swept Western North Carolina. Neighborhood theatres featuring Saturday "kiddie matinees" were hardest hit by the ban, but other theatres as well have reported a noticeable decline in business. Dr. W. Ross Cameron, city health officer, said he would recommend lifting of the ban within the next week or two if no more cases of polio are reported in Charlotte or Mecklenburg County within that time.

Polio Ban Lifted

CINCINNATI, July 31.—Health authorities at nearby Madison, Ind., have lifted the ban on children under 16 attending theatres there, due to the decrease of infantile paralysis cases.

Schine Depositions in Delaware, O., Today

John Buchman, Jr., bedridden in Delaware, Ohio, and Henry Bieberson, Jr., both exhibitors, will give depositions in that city today as witnesses for the Government in the anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres. The testimony will be taken by Willard S. McKay, defense counsel, and Robert L. Wright, U. S. Department of Justice special attorney.

The hearing of the Schine case, recessed by Federal Judge John Knight several months ago, is scheduled to resume in U. S. District Court at Buffalo Aug. 15.

Thorgersen to WOR

Ed Thorgerson, commentator for 20th Century-Fox's Movietone News, will join the staff of radio station WOR, N. Y., Aug. 7. He will broadcast nightly at 11 P.M.

Personal Mention

DARRYL F. ZANUCK and HENRY KING arrived in New York yesterday to attend the world premiere of "Wilson" at the Roxy tonight. They plan to return to the Coast at the weekend.

•

JEANNETTE E. SAMUELSON of the *Motion Picture Herald* staff is a patient at Beth Israel Hospital, where she underwent an operation yesterday.

•

CHARLES W. KOERNER, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production, and PERRY LIEBER, studio publicity manager, will return to California from New York today.

•

WILLIAM K. SAXTON, city manager of the Loew Theatre, Baltimore, is vacationing with his parents on Long Island.

•

WILLIAM G. BISHOP, Western publicity supervisor for M-G-M, is spending a two-week vacation in Wisconsin.

•

CLAUDE MORRIS, U.A. publicity chief in Chicago, is back at his desk following a trip through his Midwest territory.

•

J. B. UNDERWOOD, southern division manager for Columbia in Dallas, is on a tour of his new territory.

•

HARRY GRAMP, booker for the Hainline Circuit of Southern Illinois, was in Chicago last week on business.

MALCOLM KINGSBERG, RKO vice-president and treasurer, left New York over the weekend for a three-week vacation in California accompanied by his family.

•

FRED GULBRANSEN, RKO Radio manager in Panama, and MAX GOMEZ, Mexico manager, left for their respective posts yesterday after attending the RKO convention in New York last week.

•

RUTH KIRSTEN, secretary to LOUIS KAUFMAN of the Warner home office theatre department, and PAULINE KASSLER, secretary to ABEL VIGARD of the same department, are vacationing in Canada.

•

JACOB LEFF, general counsel of Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, and MRS. LEFF became the parents of a daughter, born Sunday at the Sydenham Hospital.

•

SIDNEY G. ALEXANDER, lieutenant in the U. S. Maritime Service, has been placed on inactive status and has rejoined Columbia.

•

PEDRO SAENZ, RKO Radio manager for Cuba, returned yesterday to his headquarters in Havana after attending the RKO convention in New York.

•

HARRY MANDEL, RKO Theatres publicity and advertising head, will return from vacation next week.

Bershon Relinquishes WFC Chairmanship

LOS ANGELES, July 31. — David Bershon today relinquished the chairmanship of the U. S. Treasury's War Finance Division theatre committee, which he has held since its inception. A successor will be chosen prior to the opening of the Sixth War Loan Drive, Nov. 11-Dec. 7.

Preparations for a dinner in tribute to Bershon, scheduled for Periono's Cafe here Aug. 14, are being made by a committee of exhibitors, including Sherril Corwin, William Syere and Seymour Peiser.

Edward Bausch, 89, Dies in Rochester

ROCHESTER, N. Y., July 31.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 3:30 P.M. for Edward Bausch, 89, chairman of the board of Bausch & Lomb, who died yesterday at his home here.

Son of John Jacob Bausch, cofounder of the company, Bausch is credited with much of the development of the modern microscope. He invented the iris diaphragm shutter which led to the popular use of the camera as a hobby. Surviving is his brother William.

Nelson Hall Dies

PHILADELPHIA, July 31.—Nelson L. Hall, 60, former stunt man for film stars, died here at the weekend. Until his illness, Hall worked as a trainer for Army Ordnance officers here.

William K. Hopkins Returns to Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—William K. Hopkins who has been on leave-of-absence from Columbia Pictures as regional director of the War Manpower Commission, returned today to the studio as director of industrial and public relations. Formerly studio contact man, Hopkins in his new post will represent the executive management in its relations with federal, state, local governments and private agencies.

Mark Goldman Joins PRC in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, July 31.—Mark Goldman, former Pittsburgh branch manager for Monogram, has become assistant to PRC franchise holders' committee chairman Nat L. Lefton, who operates several exchanges.

Beginning today, Goldman will be in charge of Lefton - PRC sales in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati territories, with headquarters here.

New Television Company

HARTFORD, July 31. — The Connecticut Television Co. of Darien, Conn., has filed a certificate of incorporation and elected Ralph C. Powell, Darien, president-treasurer; Charles C. Pelham, Noroton, vice-president, and John P. Satterfield, Darien, secretary.

Zukor Examination Is Off for 2 Weeks

Pre-trial examination of Adolph Zukor, chairman of the Paramount board of directors, in the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies, scheduled to be held here yesterday, has been postponed until Aug. 15 because of illness of one of the attorneys.

Likewise, the examination of Barney Balaban, Paramount president, originally set for Aug. 10, will be delayed and is now on the books for Aug. 28. The resumed testimony from Will H. Hays, who was examined for five weeks in May and June, is scheduled for the first week in September. The case has been set tentatively for trial in the Fall. The pre-trial hearings are being held in the offices of Hays, Podell and Shulman, plaintiff's counsel.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
Rise Stevens
IN PARAMOUNT'S
'GOING MY WAY'
IN PERSON
HI, LO, JACK and the DAME
•
MILT HERTH TRIO

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

5TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

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A PICTURE A WEEK!

New life with Universal's new season's box-office hits for

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER



With this unprecedented line-up for the first three months of the new season, Universal is setting the pace for the smash entertainment it will deliver in the 1944-1945 program which is now being offered to the exhibitors of America.

All pictures in this announcement are completed except one which is currently on the stages.

FOR RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 1

Spectacular in Technicolor
—filled with romance,
action and adventure.

Completed!



GYPSY

FOR RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 8

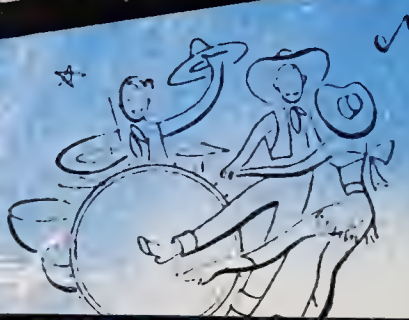
Here's one in the swing
groove. Change of pace to
rhythm. Proved box-office
with proved entertainers.

Completed!



ANDREWS SISTERS

LEO CARRILLO



MARIA
MONTEZ

JON
HALL

PETER
COE



IN TECHNICOLOR

WILDCAT



with **NIGEL BRUCE · LEO CARRILLO**

Gale Sondergaard · Douglas Dumbrille · Curt Bois

Screen Play, James Hogan, Gene Lewis, James M. Cain • Original Story, James Hogan, Ralph Stock
Additional Dialogue, Joseph Hoffman

Directed by Roy William Neill Produced by GEORGE WAGGNER

MOONLIGHT and CACTUS



with

ELYSE KNOX TOM SEIDEL EDDIE QUILLAN
SHEMP HOWARD TOM KENNEDY

and **MITCH AYRES** AND HIS ORCH.

Original Screen Play by Eugene Conrad and Paul Gerard Smith

Directed by EDWARD F. CLINE · Associate Producer, FRANK GROSS


FOR RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 15
A great human story. Heart throbs with a great old-timer and two great youngsters.
Completed!
MER


FOR RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 22
Proved historical personalities. The change of pace to the "who done it" school.
Completed!
the

DONALD O'CONNOR ★ PEGGY RYAN ★ JACK OAKIE

The RY MONAHANS

with

ANN BLYTH

ROSEMARY DE CAMP • GAVIN MUIR
• ISABEL JEWELL • JOHN MILJAN

Original Screen Play by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano
Dance Direction by Louis Da Pron • Carlos Romero

Directed by CHARLES LAMONT Produced by MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO



Introducing the new hit song "LOVELY," and bringing back the great hits of all time, including "MISSOURI WALTZ," "I'M ALWAYS CHASING RAINBOWS," "I HATE TO LOSE YOU" and "SOME OF THESE DAYS"

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

BASIL RATHBONE and NIGEL BRUCE

Pearl of Death



with Evelyn Ankers · Dennis Hoey · Miles Mander · Mary Gordon

Screen Play by Bertram Millhauser • Based on "The Six Napoleons" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Produced and Directed by ROY WILLIAM NEILL

FOR RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 29

Something to make them laugh and at the same time to warm their hearts. A change of pace with a fine group of young stars.

Completed!

JON HALL
LOUISE ALLBRITTON

San Diego, I Love You





with
EDWARD EVERETT HORTON, ERIC BLORE,
Buster Keaton, Florence Lake, Irene
Ryan, Richard Powers, Clarence Muse

Screen play by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano
from a story by Ruth McKenny and Richard Bransten

Produced by
MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO
Directed by REGINALD LE BORG

UNIVERSAL PICTURES





FOR RELEASE
OCTOBER 6

Another one for the swing fans and for the oldsters who wish they could swing it.

Completed!

Bob Crosby in





FOR RELEASE
OCTOBER 13

Two famous comedians in a story based on a successful Broadway play. This one will keep them laughing.

Completed!



Olsen and Johnson













SEE MY LAWYER

with

Grace MacDonald · Alan Curtis
Noah Beery, Jr. · Richard Benedict
Franklin Pangborn · Gus Schilling
Lee Patrick · Edward S. Brophy
Mary Gordon · Stanley Clements
and
Yvette · Carmen Amaya and Her Company · The Christianis
King Cole Trio · Hudson Wonders
Six Willys

Screen play by Edmund L. Hartmann and Stanley Davis.
From the play by Richard Maibaum and Harry Clork
Produced on the stage by George Abbott

Produced by **EDMUND L. HARTMANN**
Directed by **EDDIE CLINE**

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

THE SINGING SHERIFF

with

FAY McKENZIE · Edward Norris · Fuzzy Knight · Samuel S. Hinds
Andrew Tombes · Joe Sawyer · Iris Adrian
and **Doodles Weaver · Pat Starling and Louis Da Pron**

Screen Play by Henry Blankfort and Eugene Conrad • Original Story by John Grey
Directed by **LESLIE GOODWINS** Associate Producer **BERNARD W. BURTON**



FOR RELEASE
OCTOBER 20

Susanna Foster, Boris Karloff, Turhan Bey—a great combination of box-office personalities.

Completed!

SUSANNA FOSTER - BORIS

THE CLIMAX



JUNE VINCENT • GEORGE DOLENZ
GALE SONDERGAARD • THOMAS GOMEZ
JANE FARRAR • LUDWIG STOSSEL
SCOTTY BECKETT

Screen play by Curt Siodmak and Lynn Starling

Adapted by Curt Siodmak from the Play by Edward Locke

Produced and Directed by
GEORGE WAGGNER

KARLOFF - TURHAN BEY

KISMET

in Technicolor



FOR RELEASE
OCTOBER 27

Young stars who have already made good in top-notch musical entertainment.
Completed!

PEGGY RYAN ANN BLYTH



BABES ON SWING STREET



UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Associate Producer,
BERNARD W. BURTON

Directed by EDWARD LILLEY

with

Leon Errol · Anne Gwynne · Andy Devine · June Preisser
Kirby Grant · Alma Kruger · Bill Dunn · Sidney Miller
Harry Shannon *and* **Leo Carrillo · Marion Hutton**
Freddie Slack and His Orchestra

Screen Play by Howard Dimsdale and Eugene Conrad
Original Story by Brenda Weisberg

Special

BOWERY
TO
BROADWAY

Production

AN *Epic* OF ENTERTAINMENT!

Read about its wonderful box-office on the pages following!

FOR RELEASE
NOVEMBER 3

A great human-interest story with a great all-star cast . . . with spectacle, romance and music.

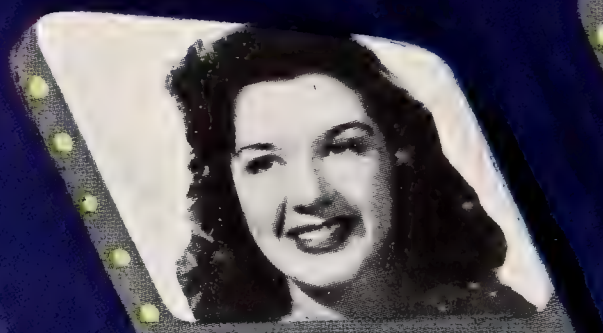
Completed!



DONALD O'CONNOR



MARIA MONTEZ



PEGGY RYAN



JACK OAKIE

EVERYBODY WILL LOVE IT... BECAUSE IT IS ABOUT PEOPLE WHOM EVERYBODY LOVES...

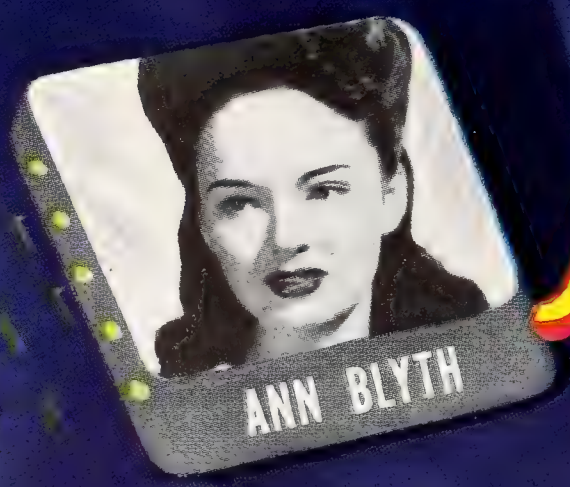


TURHAN BEY



SUSANNA FOSTER

BOWERY



ANN BLYTH



ANDY DEVINE



EVELYN ANKERS

Screen Play by Edmund Joseph, Bart Lytton and Arthur T. Horman

Original Story by Edmund Joseph and Bart Lytton

Produced by JOHN GRANT

Directed by CHARLES LAMONT



TO BROADWAY

starring

MARIA MONTEZ · JACK OAKIE · SUSANNA FOSTER
TURHAN BEY · LOUISE ALLBRITTON · LEO CARRILLO
ANN BLYTH · ANDY DEVINE · EVELYN ANKERS

with ROSEMARY DeCAMP · FRANK McHUGH · DONALD COOK · THOMAS GOMEZ · ROBERT WARWICK
MAUDE EBURNE · GEORGE DOLENZ · RICHARD LANE · MANTON MORELAND · BEN CARTER

and DONALD O'CONNOR · PEGGY RYAN

The most versatile actor on the screen.

The lovely and flaming young sensation of "Phantom Lady," "Corvette K-225," "Cry Havoc," "Tall in the Saddle" and now Preston Sturges' "Hail the Conquering Hero".

CHARLES LAUGHTON

ELLA RAINES

in

THE SUSPECT



UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Directed by **ROBERT SIODMAK**

who directed "Christmas Holiday" and "Phantom Lady"

Produced by **ISLIN AUSTER**

Printed in U.S.A.

'SYWA', 'Dragon Seed', Score in 2nd B'way Week

(Continued from page 1)

Sinatra's film, is clicking handsomely at the Palace with $35,000 expected on the first week on the basis of $28,000 recorded on the first five days ending Sunday night, "Christmas Holiday" will wind up a fifth and final week of a highly profitable run at the Criterion today with about $20,000. Columbia's "Mr. Winkle Goes To War" will open at the Criterion tomorrow.

A modest $57,000 is expected on the third week of "And the Angels Sing" and a stage bill headed by Perry Como and Jerry Wald and his band at the Paramount. The combination will start a fourth and final week tomorrow with Paramount's "Hail the Conquering Hero" set to take over. "Take It Or Leave It" and a stage bill at the Roxy failed to hold up for a third week with less than $48,000 taken in on the final six days ending last night. The regular run of "Wilson" starts tomorrow following the premiere tonight. Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians are heading the stage show.

Both "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Rivoli and "Mr. Skeffington" at the Hollywood are continuing to better business than in several of the earlier weeks of their runs. About $33,000 is expected on the eighth week of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" and about $26,000 on the tenth week of "Mr. Skeffington" at the Hollywood. Both films will continue.

'Mark Twain's' $31,000

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" and a stage show featuring Vincent Lopez and his orchestra at the Strand is expected to get a quiet $31,000 on a third and final week. Warner's "Janie" and a stage show presenting Tommy Tucker and his band will open at the Strand on Friday. The fifth week of "Bathing Beauty" at the Astor is expected to bring about $17,000 which is quite satisfactory and the film will continue.

M-G-M's "The Canterville Ghost" opened to good business at the Globe last Friday and about $25,000 is expected on the first week on the basis of three-day business of $14,000. It will continue, with 20th Century-Fox's "A Wing and a Prayer" set to follow at the Globe and possibly also at the Gotham, where the revival of "Dead End" is continuing to hold up well, with $7,000 expected on the fourth week. It will continue.

"Candlelight in Algeria," British-made melodrama being released here by 20th Century-Fox, is expected to bring $11,000 on its first week at the Victoria, which is modest business, and it will hold over. 20th Century-Fox plans to bring "Wilson" into the Victoria but no definite date has been set. The Victoria run will be concurrent with the Roxy. "Atlantic City" is expected to take over at the Manhattan Aug. 12 where the reissue of "Fantasia" is headed for $5,000 on the fifth week. "Shadows in the Night" is doing average business on its week at the Rialto, with $7,200 expected. RKO's "The Falcon in Mexico" will open there Friday.

"Casanova Brown"

(Continued from page 1)

loves him, the groom returns to his home-town girl and promises, some months later, to make plans for another wedding.

On his wedding eve, he learns that he is a father by his first, short-lived marriage, and that his wife plans to allow the baby to be adopted by strangers. The indignant young man kidnaps the baby from the maternity hospital, and thereby plunges into hliarious complications. All's well that ends well, however, and this story does.

The cast is uniformly excellent. Gary Cooper, as the inexperienced young father struggling with feedings and formulae, is devastatingly funny. Frank Morgan, as the testy father of one of Cooper's prospective brides, handles a role new for him with delicacy and dispatch. Patricia Collinge, as the star-struck dowager, makes of her interpretation something to memember with a smile. Teresa Wright and Anita Louise have little to do, but it couldn't be done better. Edmund Breon, Mary Treen, Emory Parnell and Jill Esmond each contribute characterizations clear-cut as cameos.

A Friday night audience at Hollywood's Fox-Wilshire Theatre laughed so hard that some of the lines of the dialogue were lost.

The William Goetz-Leo Spitz company is off to a flying start.

Running time, 92 minutes. Release date, Sept. 1. "G."*

THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Wilson' Premiere Tonight at Roxy

(Continued from page 1)

WMCA will interview prominent personalities including Zanuck and Henry King, the film's director.

Film executives expected to attend the premiere include Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Nate Blumberg, Jack Cohn, Howard Dietz, New Depinet, Stanton Griffis, E. T. Gomersall, J. R. Grainger, W. Ray Johnston, Ben Kalmenson, Austin C. Keough, Carl Leserman, Haskell Masters, Abe Montague, James A. Mulvey, John J. O'Connor, J. Robert Rubin, William F. Rodgers, Charles Reagan, N. Peter Rathvon, Edward C. Raftery, Nicholas M. Schneck, Major Albert Warner, Harry Warner, Adolph Zukor.

Exhibitors expected to attend are Harry Arthur, Harry Brandt, A. H. Blank, Ralph Branton, Max A. Cohen, Col. H. A. Cole, Irving B. Dollinger, Nick Dipson, Fred Dolle, Si Fabian, Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, John Freidl, J. J. Fitzgibbons, L. C. Griffith, Ben Geldsaler, Karl Hoblitzelle, John Harris, Jack Kirsch, Arthur Meyer, J. R. Neth, Bob O'Donnell, Walter Reade, E. C. Rhoden, E. V. Richards, Edward Rowley, Jules Rubens, J. Myer Schine, Sidney E. Samuelson, R. B. Wilby and 300 others.

Hollywood personalities who will be present are Mr. and Mrs. Darryl F. Zanuck, Mr. and Mrs. William Perlberg, Mr. and Mrs. Henry King, Lamar Trotti, Gene Tierney, William Bendix, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Thomas Mitchell, Michael O'Shea, Carmen Miranda, Dana Andrews, Celeste Holm, Katherne Locke, Phil Baker, George Jessel among others.

Melvin Fox Plans 2 In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, July 31.—Plans for two new theatres, to be built in the postwar period in the Mayfair section of this city, have been announced by Melvin Fox, owner of the Mayfair and Penypak. Both of the proposed houses will be on Frankford Ave.

Falls Theatre Files ClearanceComplaint

A clearance complaint has been filed in the Milwaukee tribunal and a some-run complaint withdrawn in the Minneapolis tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The Falls Theatre, Sheboygan Falls, Wis., has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, alleging unreasonable and unfair clearance in being held seven days behind the Majestic and Wisconsin, second-run houses in that city. Second-run clearance is held 60 days behind first-runs giving the Falls the earliest possible playing time of 67 days after first-runs, the complainant stated. In most cases, the complaint alleged, the Falls theatre films played from three to five months after first-run situations due to delayed second-run bookings.

The Wisconsin since June 26 has been closed making it impossible to book programs properly, the complainant alleged, thus necessitating the purchasing of more product than is necessary. The complainant asks that the clearance of the Majestic and Wisconsin be removed and that it be permitted to play 28 days directly after first-runs.

In Minneapolis, the Empress Amusement Corp. withdrew its some-run complaint against Loew's on July 24, the AAA revealed.

Koerner, Rathvon Guest

Charles Koerner, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production, was guest of honor at the annual party which N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, sponsored at the weekend.

Top RKO Radio and RKO executives convened at the Apawanis Country Club, Rye, N. Y., for golf and luncheon. Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, and Phil Reisman, foreign sales vice-president, were among those attending.

Ober Joins U.A.

Ralph Ober, Associated Press-Wide World picture editor, will join the UA publicity staff on Aug. 7.

85% of Raw Stock Production to War

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Raw stock production will continue at the full capacity of the industry, but there will be no increase in available supplies for amateurs in the near future, it was announced today by the War Production Board. Total film production last year was 546,000,000 square feet, an increase of 30 per cent over the 1941 total, and production is continuing at a high rate, but 85 per cent of the output is being used for war or war-connected purposes, the WPB said.

A new system has been adopted calling for production of the various types of film, under which individual quarterly authorizations will be issued to the film manufacturers to produce and deliver specified quantities of each of six types of finished film, two of these types are, specifically, 35 mm. motion picture film and 8, 16 and 32 mm. stock.

Today's announcement was primarily for the benefit of camera fans, and is of little significance to the motion picture producers, whose needs for raw stocks are met by allocations.

Army Politics Curbs Have Not Hit Films

WASHINGTON, July 31.—No motion picture films have so far been barred from the Army's film service because of political bias during three months under rules designed to enforce strict impartiality in the dissemination of political information, it was learned here today.

Magazines and books have both been affected by the requirements of the Federal voting law, which is an amendment to the Hatch Act prohibiting the use of Federal funds or sponsorship to influence the armed forces in voting in national elections, but while a number of Hollywood features are known to have been reviewed none have been rejected. The first major test of the industry's ability to produce non-political pictures dealing with political figures and events, however, will shortly come when army officials review Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson," but that picture has not yet come up for consideration.

Exhibitors Press for Start of Tax Council

Ed Kuykendall, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and other sponsors of the exhibitors' council on taxation, proposed six months ago, are said to be concerned over the delay in organizing, in view of the fact that Congress will become active late this month and 42 state legislatures will go into session next January. Consequently, an effort is being made to overcome transportation difficulties and call a round table conference on the subject, possibly in Chicago in September.

The council, which would aim to present a united front on pending industry tax measures, is being formed by all major exhibitor associations except Allied; and it is understood that the latter, while opposed to joining officially in combined efforts of this sort, will give unofficial co-operation.

Production Is Down, with 44 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, July 31. — Production took a sharp drop last week, as 14 features went to the cutting rooms, and eight before the cameras. Work was suspended on Lester Cowan's "Story of G. I. Joe." The total number in work was 44, as compared with 51 the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Renegade Roundup" and "The Missing Juror" (formerly "Tomorrow You Die."

Started: "Dormant Account (Darmour), with Richard Dix and Janis Carter.

Shooting: "Eve Knew Her Apples," "Untitled Boyer-Dunne," "Tonight and Every Night."

M-G-M

Finished: "The Home Front."

Shooting: "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Monogram

Finished: "Adventures of Kitty O'Day," "Law of the Valley."

Started: "Ghost of Indian Springs," with Raymond Hatton, Johnny Mack Brown, Evelyn Finley and Sarah Padden; "Army Wives," with Elyse Knox, Marjorie Rambeau and Rick Vallin.

Shooting: "Little Devils."

PRC

Finished: "The Great Mike" (formerly "At the Post").

Started: "I Accuse My Parents," with Mary Beth Hughes, John Miljan, and George Meeker; "The Town Went Wild," with Freddie Bartholomew, James Lydon and Edward Everett Horton.

Shooting: "I'm from Arkansas."

Paramount

Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World," "A Medal for Benny," "Here Come the Waves."

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Brighton Strangler."

Started: "It's a Pleasure" (International), with Sonja Henie, Marie McDonald, Bill Johnson, Iris Adrian, and Peggy O'Neill.

Shooting: "Isle of the Dead," "Experiment Perilous," "Betrayal from the East," "The Falcon in Hollywood," "Nevada," "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "Sheriff of Las Vegas," "Lights of Old Santa Fe," "Brazil."

Shooting: "Flame of Barbary Coast."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Nob Hill," with Joan Bennett, George Raft and Vivian Blaine.

Shooting: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," "Thunderhead," "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Winged Victory."

United Artists

Finished: "Dark Waters". (Bogeaus); "Three's a Family" (Lesser).

Suspended: "Story of G. I. Joe" (Cowan).

Shooting: "Tomorrow the World" (Cowan); "The Great John L" (Crosby); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Finished: "Night Life."

Started: "The Mummy's Curse," with Lon Chaney, Kay Harding and Peter Coe.

Shooting: "Can't Help Singing," "Queen of the Nile."

Warner

Finished: "Christmas in Connecticut."

Shooting: "The Corn Is Green," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

July Grosses Were Well Above Those Last Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

July topped this June, but by the comparatively narrow margin of $971, the average weekly gross of the month just ended, $15,993, comparing with $15,022 for the previous month. July of 1943 was $2,339 better than June of that year.

The week-by-week trend this year, generally paralleling that of a year ago, showed $17,178 for the first seven days of the month, which included the long Independence Day holiday, then a dip to $15,476, followed by an upswing which reached $16,632 last week.

Films appearing most frequently as leading grossers in the correspondents' reports included: "Going My Way," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Christmas Holiday," "Home in Indiana," "Gaslight," "Seven Days Ashore," "Marine Raiders," "The Eve of St. Mark" and "Two Girls and a Sailor."

Other strong attractions included: "Pin-Up Girl," "It Happened Tomorrow," "Between Two Worlds," "Show Business," "Sensations of 1945," "Roger Touhy, Gangster," "Bermuda Mystery," "The Sullivans," "Mr. Winkle Goes to War," "The Hitler Gang," "Shine On, Harvest Moon," "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More," "Up in Arms," "The Adventures of Mark Twain" and the reissued "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs."

Composite records of the year to date, compared with the same weeks last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1..	135	$2,213,500	$16,396
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16.419
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,900	16.211
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16.307
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585
Mar. 31-Apr. 1..	152	3,025,000	13.329
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322
June 23-24 .. .	136	2,002,800	14,726
June 30-July 1..	126	2,178,300	17,288
July 7-8	145	2,490,900	17,178
July 14-15	144	2,228,500	15,476
July 21-22	148	2,321,400	15,685
July 28-29	135	2,245,400	16.632

1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	127	1,648,600	12,981
Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,538
Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 12-13 ..	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 19-20 ..	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 26-27 ..	147	1,938,200	13,185
April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 16-17 ...	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 23-24 ...	158	2,006,200	12.634
Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12.034
June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010
July 9-10	153	2,433,700	15,905
July 16-17	151	2,109,400	13,970
July 23-24	155	2,185,100	14,097
July 30-31	164	2,347,900	14,316

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280 Day-and-Dates For WB's 'Janie'

Warner's "Janie" will open day-and-date at 280 theatres over the Labor Day weekend. The opening is reputedly one of the biggest in Warner history.

"Janie," the first film in the 1944-'45 season, will have pre-release engagements at the New York Strand beginning Friday and at the Warner Theatre in Atlantic City beginning Aug. 11.

65 Applications for Tele. Stations Pend

There were 65 applications pending before the Federal Communications Commission for permission to erect commercial television stations in 24 states and the District of Columbia as of July 25, according to records compiled by Television Broadcasters Association. Applications must await the end of wartime restrictions on essential materials.

MPA Purchases Bond

The purchase of a $5,000 bond has been approved by the Motion Picture Associates' board of directors, it was reported this week by president Morris Sanders. Although MPA meetings have been suspended for the summer the Welfare committee has been working out a plan to send gifts to members and their sons and daughters now in the Armed forces. Sanders also reported that 35 MPA volunteers are serving as hosts at the Stage Door Canteen.

First meeting of the new season will be held Sept. 1.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, July 31

GEORGE RAFT will be starred in the forthcoming RKO production, "Johnny Angel," from Ellis St. Joseph's screenplay, adapted from the book, "Mr. Angel Comes Aboard." Ray Enright will direct, and Jack Gross will produce . . . Paul Muni has been signed by Columbia to play the stellar role of Kulkov, the Russian guerrilla, in the picturization of the play "Counterattack." Zoltan Korda will direct . . . Clarence Brown's next production for M-G-M will be "As You Want Me," a romantic comedy.

•

Lewis Allen has been assigned by Paramount to direct "Our Hearts Were Growing Up," the follow-up picture to "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay." Gail Russell, Diana Lynn, James Brown and Bill Edwards, who played the leads in the latter picture, will play their same roles in the new one . . . The next "Dr. Gillespie" picture at M-G-M will be "Dr. Red Adams." Carey Wilson will produce, and Willis Goldbeck will direct . . . Samuel Goldwyn has signed Bertha Belmore, of the New York and London stage, for a leading comedy role in "The Wonder Man."

•

Boris Karloff will be seen on Broadway next Winter in the starring role in Hulber Footner's "Who Sups with the Devil." The actor is currently working in "The Isle of the Dead" at RKO . . . Bernard Burton has been assigned as associate producer for the Universal musical, "Swing Out, Sister." . . . Werner Janssen, well-known symphony conductor, has ben signed by Hunt Stromberg to prepare the musical score for "Guest in the House," the Anne Baxter-Ralph Bellamy starring vehicle . . . Arthur Walsh, 'jitterbug' champion, will have a straight dramatic part in M-G-M's forthcoming production, "Autumn Fever," in which Mary Astor and Philip Dorn will be featured.

•

Carol Thurston is set for one of the major supporting roles in RKO's "China Sky," which will be directed by Ray Enright and produced by Maurice Geraghty . . . Kay Harding and Peter Coe will have the romantic leads in Universal's new horror picture, "The Mummy's Return," which stars Lon Chaney . . . Lee Miller, managing editor of Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, is in Hollywood to confer with Lester Cowan on the latter's production of "G. I. Joe," which is built around Ernie Pyle, war correspondent . . . PRC has replaced Jackie Moran with Bob Lowell for the lead in "I Accuse My Parents" . . . Elyse Knox has been signed for the romantic lead in Monogram's "Army Wives" . . . Janis Paige is set for one of the principal parts in "Of Human Bondage" at Warners; Edmund Owen will have a leading comedy role in the same film . . . Lester Parks and Jane Frazee have been given the romantic leads in the Columbia's tentatively titled "Hello, Mom" . . . Richard McWhorter has been named assistant to director Sidney Lanfield on Paramount's "Duffy's Tavern."

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NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE

PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Distributors Will Open New Branches

(*Continued from page* 1)

distribution of their films in the post-war.

Although distribution heads are reluctant to disclose locations at present, it is understood that several are considering branches in Alaska, many sections of Africa, the Orient and the Far East where they previous did not have offices.

The presence of American forces in those regions is said to have created a considerable interest in American films available to U. S. Armed Forces and have been seen by the civilian populace as well under supervision of the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch, which has supervision over the showing of American films secured from the industry by the Office of War Information. In many instances, it is understood that civilians have even been permitted to attend showings for members of the forces, building new audiences for American films.

In 1939, before the war forced the major film companies to curtail world operations, Loew's had 54 foreign branches; 20th Century-Fox had 47; United Artists, 47; Paramount, 39; Universal, 38; Warner Bros., 32; Columbia, 25; and RKO, 22. Today, Loew's has about 30; 20th-Fox, 32; United Artists, 23; Paramount, 21; Universal, 23; Warners, 24; Columbia, 17; and RKO, 20, and several are operating only limitedly.

Monogram Names 27 Films for 6 Months

(*Continued from page* 1)

sales meeting in Chicago Aug. 12-15.

The list for the six-month period follows: Four releases for August comprise: "Leave It to the Irish," "West of the Rio Grande," "Call of the Jungle," and "The Utah Kid." September has six: "Oh, What a Night!", "Black Magic," "Block Busters," "Land of the Outlaws," "Shadows of Suspicion" and "Marked Trails." Three are on the list for October: "When Strangers Marry," "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine," and "Enemy of Women." November has four: "Army Wives," "Law of the Valley," "Alaska," and "Mystery Mansion." There will be seven in December: "The Case of the Missing Medico," "Adventures of Kitty O'Day," an untitled Lone Star Western, "Little Devils," "Ghost Guns," "The Shadow." Finally three are set for January: "Murder in the Family," "G. I. Honeymoon" and "They Shall Have Faith."

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Reviews

"Stars on Parade"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, July 31

IT'S the music that puts this picture across. Ten tuneful songs are strung upon a slender love story thread. Among the familiar favorites heard are "It's Love, Love, Love," "When They Ask About You" and "Juke Box Saturday Night." Larry Parks and Lynn Merrick sing the first, Danny O'Neill does well by the second, and The Cords go to town on the third.

Lew Landers' direction is smooth, and concentrates upon the production numbers rather than the story, which is the old one about the boy and girl who decide to put on a show of their own in order to give aspiring young talent a chance. Monte Brice wrote it this time, and didn't improve it much. A troupe of Negro singers stand out among a large cast, and their presentation of a medley of familiar spirituals is particularly effective. Wallace MacDonald is credited with the production.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* THALIA BELL

"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, July 31

THE first of the Biltmore Productions, sponsored by Lou Costello, is a rollicking farce which provided plenty of laughter from a week-night audience at Hollywood's Pantages Theatre. Elyse Knox, Anne Gillis and Sally Eilers make the most of some amusing dialogue, and Henny Youngman has the top comedy spot.

Hal Fimberg's screenplay—which, incidentally, has nothing whatever to do with Waves, Wacs, or Marines—concerns two aspiring young actresses brought to Hollywood by an agent who is under the impression that the girls are established stars. And before the film ends, that is exactly what they are.

Edward Sherman produced, and Sebastian Cristillo was executive producer. Phil Karlstein's direction is fast and furious.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 30.

THALIA BELL

"Three Little Sisters"

(*Republic*)

REPUBLIC herewith contributes to the uplift of morale on the home front with a little picture titled "Three Little Sisters." Despite a gesture in the direction of somewhat sticky sentimentality through the device of using a crippled girl, a preview audience of middle-aged women and young girls was duly impressed. Their counterparts in theatres should react similarly.

In a quiet fashion, associate producer Harry Grey and director Joseph Santley show how romance can bloom at home, via correspondence, between William Terry, a G.I., and Cheryl Walker, the incapacitated girl, who builds a dazzling illusion in her letters to Terry of her imaginary manor house, abetted by her sisters, Mary Lee and Ruth Terry. When the G.I. unexpectedly arrives at their very modest Vermont home they perform according to the girl's letters, by using an abandoned home owned by Charles Arnt, a flinty real estate man. Arnt almost ruins their plans for a canteen in the house, but is pacified at the last minute when he is hailed by the soldiers as a good fellow and nominated for mayor.

A succession of tuneful songs by Walter Kent and Kim Gannon, capably delivered by the Misses Lee and Terry, bolster the production. William Shirley sings "Sweet Dreams Sweetheart" and the title song, "Three Little Sisters," by Irving Taulor and Vic Mizzy, which is appealing. Jackie Moran and Frank Jenks are amusing. Olive Cooper did the screenplay from an original by herself and Maurice Clark.

Running time, 69 mins. "G."* Release date, July 31.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Record for 'Attack'

RKO's documentary subject, "Attack," produced by the Army Signal Corps, is expected to reach a maximum of 15,000 bookings to set an all-time record for RKO, it was reported yesterday by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager.

'Seed' Benefit Tonight

The East and West Association will sponsor a benefit showing of M-G-M's "Dragon Seed" at Radio City Music Hall tonight. Among those scheduled to attend are Chinese Ambassador to the U. S. Dr. Wei Tao-Ming and Pearl S. Buck, president of the organization and author of the novel on which the film is based.

20th-Fox Meet at Astor Tomorrow

(*Continued from page* 1)

duction vice-president Darryl F. Zanuck. W. J. Kupper, general sales manager, will preside.

Informal divisional sales conferences started yesterday at the home office with A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales head, and L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager, presiding over the divisions. Today William C. Gehring, Western sales manager, will meet with his district and branch managers at the home office.

Home office officials who will attend besides Skouras, Connors and Kupper include Murray Silverstone, Smith, Schlaifer, Gehring, Hal Horne, Martin Moskowitz, W. J. Clark, G. A. Roberts, Paul Terry, Edmund Reek, Roger Ferri, Edwin H. Collins, Jack Bloom, Jack Sichelman.

Exchange executives include Harry G. Ballance, E. X. Callahan, H. R. Beiersdorf, James J. Grady, Ward E. Scott, Phil Longdon, Paul S. Wilson, Sydney Samson, M. A. Levy, M. S. Grassgreen, B. A. Simon, Harry Alexander, R. E. Moon, Sam Gross, Clay U. Hake, C. E. Peppiatt, J. E. Holston, F. R. Dodson, E. V. Landaiche, Tom W. Young, Cecil E. House, M. W. Osborne, G. W. Fuller, B. B. Reingold, G. T. Landis, J. E. Scott, J. S. Cohan, S. J. Mayer, Jack Lorentz, Tom R. Gilliam, Joseph J. Lee, I. J. Schmertz, L. J. Bugie, I. H. Cohn, H. L. Beecroft.

Gehring will leave here on Friday for the Coast to conduct similar meetings on Aug. 10 and 11 in Los Angeles.

Goldhammer to Head FC Distribution

(*Continued from page* 1)

Minneapolis film exchanges of Warner Bros., following which he joined RKO in 1931 and remained with the organization until his resignation last week.

With 21 Film Classics exchanges already in operation and seven more to be added within the next five or six weeks, Film Classics will have completed its national distribution setup, which will be supervised by Goldhammer.

Hopper Continuing Mercantile Corp.

(*Continued from page* 1)

ed the M-G-M general managership on solicitation of Nicholas M. Schenck, Louis B. Mayer and Edgar J, Mannix, the latter of whose responsibilities he is taking over. Mannix will devote most of his time in the future to mapping studio policies.

Mono. Installs Davis

PHILADELPHIA, July 31.—Alfred J. Davis has been installed as manager of the local Monogram exchange, succeeding the late Sam Rosen.


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SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
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'Cliffs' Paces Good San Francisco Week with $39,000

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—New as well as holdover bills registered strong grosses with "The White Cliffs of Dover" at the Paramount leading with $39,000. Fox is holding on to "Going My Way" for a third week, getting a fine $27,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 1-3.

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average $15,000).
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $30,000. (Average, $25,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $26,000).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross. $39,000. (Average: $19,500).
"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
STATE — (2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Sensations of 1944" (UA)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000).

'Beauty' Nets $21,000 In Baltimore Run

BALTIMORE, July 31.—Business here continues to feel a prolonged hot spell. Only "Bathing Beauty" which opened at the Century with $21,000, and "Christmas Holiday," with $18,000 at Keith's, could meet outdoor competition.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average $17,000).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Eddie White, Eleanor Bowers, Dick and Dot Remy, Ellert Sisters, Saul Grauman's Stairatone Revue. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000)

WAC, Writers Meet To Set OWI Films

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—The editorial board of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization met here tonight with Francis Harmon, John C. Flinn and Tom Baily of the War Activities Committee in the first conference on the next schedule of films to be made by the industry for the Office of War Information.

The nature of the subjects will be decided upon in continuing sessions expected to be held later in the week Stanton Griffis, OWI film head plans a month's stay here. Harmon expects to remain a week.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



NICE HOT-WEATHER WORK, IF YOU CAN GET IT. AND SYDNEY LANFIELD, WHO DIRECTED THE STRIKING BUBBLE-BATH SCENE SHOWN HERE BEING READIED FOR TECHNICOLOR-FUL "BRING ON THE GIRLS," GETS 3 MORE YEARS' WORK AS PARAMOUNT DIRECTOR UNDER NEWLY-SIGNED PACT. HIS FIRST PICTURE UNDER NEW CONTRACT WILL BE THE SCREEN VERSION OF FAMED RADIO SHOW, "DUFFY'S TAVERN."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, July 31

UNIVERSAL signed Charles T. Barton to a long term contract as producer and director. He was most recently with Columbia and with Paramount prior to that.

•

Injuries sustained by Leo Gorcey in a motor cycle accident recently resulted in indefinite postponement of the start of "Pitch Dark," next East Side Kids feature at Monogram by producers Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz.

•

Columbia gave Virginia Van Upp new writer-producer, a contract, without options, for a long term.

•

Fox extended Louis De Rochemont's producer contract one year.

'Lively's' $12,000 Tops Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, July 31.—The Orpheum, with "Step Lively" doing around $12,000 was leader here this week. The Midland with "Sensations of 1945" equalled its average $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 1-4.

"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA-Stone)
MIDLAND — (3,500) 40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Uncertain Glory" (WB)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10.000).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
"Follow the Leader" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
FAIRWAY — (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,600).

Jacobs Is Honored At Farewell Dinner

Washington, July 31.—Saul Jacobs, head booker for Universal here, recently promoted to branch manager of the company's West Indies territory, was given a farewell dinner at the weekend by the local Bookers Club. Sara Young of the Bookers Club and Harry Bachman, representing independent exhibitors were in charge of arrangements.

Among those attending the dinner, held at the Hotel Willard, were Frank Boucher, Fred Kogod, Clark Davis, George Wheeler, Gus Lynch, George Crouch, Louis Ribnitzki, James Root, Buck Stover, Louis Ramm, Danny Rosenthal and Al Sherman. Jacobs was presented with a War Bond, a traveling case and a plaque.

Legion Classifies 8 New Pictures

The Legion of Decency yesterday classified the following new pictures: A-1 "Big Noise," 20th Century-Fox; "Dixie Jamboree," PRC; "Sweet and Lowdown," 20th-Fox, and "Three Little Sisters," Republic: A-2, "Block Busters," Mono.; "Seven Doors to Death," PRC, and "The Impatient Years," Columbia; B, "Music in Manhattan," R.K.O.



TONIGHT

240 of the nation's leading exhibitors will be part of the distinguished audience who will be first to thrill to the gorgeous spectacle, the powerful drama, the intimate humanness which makes DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S production

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

the picture of the century from 20th Century-Fox. Tonight all eyes are on the

WORLD PREMIERE

ROXY, N.Y.

Directed by HENRY KING · Written by LAMAR TROTTI

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 22 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Urge Part of N.Y. Decree For Britain

Films Council Group Cites Sections 10, 11

LONDON, Aug. 1.—Sections 10 and 11 of the U. S. consent decree, covering methods of selling specific runs and restrictions on circuit expansion, are recommended as patterns for British legislation in a report of the monopoly committee of the Board of Trade films council, issued here today. Extension of Section 10 to provide cooperative booking by independents also is suggested.

In addition, confirming the report printed by *Motion Picture Daily* July 14, the committee calls for establishment of a tribunal to insure equitable dealing between distributors and exhibitors, plus a finance corporation to aid independent producers.

Meanwhile, it is learned from au-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Allied Offered New Independent Films

The possibility of securing approximately 12 independently produced films annually for distribution in theatres operated by Allied States Association members to help alleviate the present shortage of product, will be placed before the Allied board of directors when they meet at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, Sept. 7 and 8.

The Allied committee which was designated at the Allied convention in Philadelphia last Spring to study

(*Continued on page 8*)

Setting Filing for Exchange Pay Boost

Attorneys representing the eight major film companies met here yesterday with IATSE officials to review the applications which are being prepared jointly by the companies and the IATSE for submission to the regional War Labor Boards in the 31 exchange centers of the United States seeking WLB authorization for a sys-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ezell Seen Slated For McMurphey's Post Within OCR

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Claude C. Ezell, Dallas exhibitor, today was reported in authoritative circles here to be slated to be the new head of the Recreation and Amusements Section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, filling the post left vacant last month by resignation of George McMurphey.

OCR officials refused to comment on the filling of the top post in the Amusements Section, but it is understood that an agreement has been reached with Ezell and his appointment is expected to be announced soon.

Ezell is a member of the Theatre Owners Industry Advisory Committee set up by Donald R. Longman, director of the OCR Service Trades

(*Continued on page 7*)

Momand Case Decision Filed

OKLAHOMA CITY, Aug. 1.—Federal Judge Bower Broaddus today handed down a voluminous 118-page opinion in the old A. B. Momand anti-trust suit which essentially conformed to his earlier tentative findings which ordered a $41,000 judgment against Paramount and a $6,900 judgment against the Griffith interests.

Judge Broaddus absolved all defendants in the 13-year-old lawsuit from any guilt of conspiracy between or among one another, but cited Paramount as having illegally con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Plan Open House On Victory Day

Boston, Aug. 1.—Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres here, which were thrown open to the public for prayer on D-Day, will be thrown open for celebration on the day Germany or Japan surrenders, according to plans worked out by George Kraska, manager of the State, and Harry Greenman, manager of the Orpheum. All proceeds collected will go for relief of returning veterans.

Zanuck's 'Wilson' In Debut Here

"Wilson" was ushered into the Roxy Theatre last night in a glittering world premiere accompanied by all the trappings reminiscent of pre-war days. Milling crowds, special policemen and a carload of notables were the order of the day. According to some observers, not since the days of the Music Hall opening was such an assemblage seen.

A page of pictures of industry executives and representative exhibitors who attended the world premiere of "Wilson" at the Roxy Theatre last night appears in this issue on Page 11.

The distinguished first-night audience included, in addition to distribution executives and prominent exhibitors, Hollywood stars, newspaper representatives and persons prominent

(*Continued on page 10*)

"Wilson"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

AN important motion picture, as fine as it is unusual, is Darryl Zanuck's "Wilson," the story of America's World War President from his entry into politics in 1909 to his departure from the White House at the end of a second term in 1920.

Because it dramatizes and emphasizes Woodrow Wilson's determined fight for a League of Nations which he believed would insure international peace, and because it presumably presents the case in hand more tellingly than Wilson himself was able to do, it is a significant motion picture. This is the more true because it makes its appearance at a time when America and her Allies are at war again with the same enemy and the problem of devising a lasting peace again confronts world leaders.

While "Wilson," the motion picture, suggests most forcefully that the present war might not have occurred had the plans and principles of Woodrow Wilson prevailed, it does so fairly and without preten-

(*Continued on page 10*)

Biddle Sends Decree Back To Companies

Clark Is Slated to Resume Negotiations

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Consent decree proposals developed by the distributors have been found unacceptable by Attorney General Francis Biddle, but the door to eventual acceptance of a decree has by no means been closed, it was learned today.

A spokesman for the Department of Justice said that Biddle had instructed Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark to make another effort to work out an acceptable arrangement with the companies. It was made known that while the companies had defined their latest proposals as "final," the Attorney General considered the decree draft as "preliminary," thus giving them another opportunity to act on points not yet developed to the satisfaction of the Department.

Accompanied by Assistant Attorney

(*Continued on page 7*)

Would Amend Film Phase of Vote Law

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1.—Returning to Washington after a five-week recess for the political conventions, Congress moved quickly today to extricate the War Department from difficulties in which it has become involved under the provision of the Soldier-Vote Law prohibiting the distribution of films, periodicals or broadcasts with a political slant, aiming to head off broad relaxation of the law, which

(*Continued on page 8*)

UA Chicago Sales Meet Tomorrow

The United Artists Midwest district sales meeting will get under way at the Hotel Blackstone in Chicago tomorrow and continue until Friday. Carl Leserman, U.A. general sales manager, J. J. Unger, Western division manager and Bernie Kamber of the U. A. special events department, will leave today for the Chicago meeting, at which district managers Rud Lohrenz of Chicago and T. R. Thomp-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

PAUL L. NATHANSON, president, and HASKELL M. MASTERS, general manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, are in New York on business.

•

MOE SILVER, Warner Theatres Pittsburgh zone manager; his assistant, HARRY FEINSTEIN, and C. J. LATTA, Albany zone manager of the Warner circuit, are in New York for a few days.

•

WILLIAM T. DANZIGER, handling special assignments for HOWARD DIETZ in the M-G-M advertising department, was remarried to ISABELLE STUART last Saturday at Nantucket.

•

MORRIS STEIN, Eastern sales manager of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., discharged from the Toronto General Hospital early in June, is on the sick list again.

•

SGT. CHARLES BLOCK, former assistant manager of The La Salle Theatre, Chicago, is spending his furlough in Chicago through Aug. 12.

•

WILLIAM BAKER, Midwest district manager for Republic, left his Chicago office this week on a business tour of the district.

•

GREGORY DICKSON of M-G-M and MRS. DICKSON became parents of a daughter, MARY CAROLINE, recently.

•

CARL LESERMAN, U.A. general sales manager, will be in Chicago Aug. 3 to 5 for a Midwest sales meeting.

•

ROBERT M. COOPER, exploitation representative for U.A. is in Philadelphia for the next two weeks.

Wallis Here to Set British Film Plans

Hal B. Wallis will arrive here tomorrow from Hollywood to confer with Barney Balaban, President of Paramount; David Rose, managing director in Great Britain, and Joseph Hazen, his business associate, regarding plans for setting up the productions Wallis will make in England for Paramount.

Wallis will go to England early next Spring. He plans to start "The Affairs of Susan," starring Joan Fontaine, at the Paramount Hollywood Studio early in the Fall. Richard Flournoy, has been signed to write the screen play.

IC-R Gets U. S. Films

Inter-Continental Films has acquired distribution rights to several Selznick, Roach and Film Classics releases, it was stated at the weekend by J. A. Cordero, manager of the local office now located at 33 W. 42nd St. The films will be distributed in Spain and Latin America. I-C has also obtained American rights to 1942-'43 special productions of EFA, leading South American company.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, August 1

ONE of the mostly tightly held internal volcanoes in all of Hollywood has three principals: two very major executives and the very major studio which employs them at six stratospheric figures per year, per man. The fracas is the usual jockeying for dominance in position and authority and is freighted with significance because the key figures are of peak-grade importance here.

Both owe their appointments to the head of their company, which is to say New York. One's association antedates the other's by a number of years. The newer appointee has been threatening the steel-entrenched and hitherto bomb-proof position of the older incumbent. Result: Collision, sparks, explosion.

Those relatively few who are aware of this impasse, as usual, make book on the outcome. Each adversary has his adherents, naturally, but the adversary who has been around longer appears to be getting the ballots.

■ ■

Producers have been wholly cooperative in furnishing the Signal Corps with footage out of vaults for inclusion in various Army films. The "Way We Fight" series of features contains an assortment of clips culled from straight entertainment features. Footage from "The Good Earth," by specific example, has been blended into "The Battle of China."

While producers are eager to assist, they also have their straight business responsibilities to consider. Thus, when Elmer Davis of OWI recently moved for the theatrical release of "The Battle of China" he ran counter to MGM and "Dragon Seed." It is understood MGM posed the question if the purpose was to convey to the American public something of the character of the Chinese people, their struggles and their problems. Of course, this is the purpose and so it became the anwer.

Because "Dragon Seed" does this, MGM pointed out an attraction of such scope, theatrically handled, would reach vastly greater numbers of people and serve the faster to bring the objective into focus. Davis is said to have recognized the point.

Thereby his purpose will be served. But so will Metro's in protecting a huge investment. The Army film will be released later.

■ ■

Non-copyright suggestion for a main title. To replace the usual

KNOCKOUT PICTURES
presents

with

KNOCKOUT PICTURES
resents

Applicable under the following conditions:

1.—When the attraction carries that certain odor, thereby proving the studios can sniff, in advance, too.

2.—As a method of informing the producer who made it that he's through.

3.—As a road paver for those exhibitor-realists who will be communicating with the *Herald's* "What the Picture Did for Me" department.

■ ■

The ample spaces of this wondrous town incorporate a writer who appears able to do his best scrivening when he dictates to his secretary. She is a standby, long with him and long familiar with his eccentricities.

Aware of his dramatic values, too, he is a proponent of that school of dramaturgy which acts out the works. He, too, cries. He yells. He heaves. He is happy; also he is sad. With fidelity, for script after script, the secretary takes it all down.

Brother writers, who know the outline, are contemplating a plot. They are figuring on doing the story of the secretary. No one can know what will come out. Murder, however, would not surprise them.

■ ■

Plutocratic in many ways, Hollywood is emphatically democratic in others. One is the camaraderie which so often prevails between $5,000 a week directors, $150,000 a picture stars and grips and electricians who work with them.

An illustration concerns a writer who recently turned director but who prefers to write. He was rehearsing a scene out of his own script. It wasn't going well. "That's terrible," he told one of his leads.

In the fractional silence that followed, one of the grips said to the writer-director,

"You ought to know, buddy. You wrote it."

Coming Events

Today-Aug. 3 — 20th Century-Fox sales conference, Hotel Astor, New York.
Aug. 3-4—United Artists' Midwest sales meeting, Chicago.
Aug. 8—United Artists' board of directors' meeting. New York.
Aug. 9-10—United Artists' Western sales meeting, San Francisco.
Aug. 12-13—Monogram sales meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.
Aug. 15—Filing date for financial statements of unions, guilds and other non-profit organizations.
Aug. 16—Allied Theatre Owners of N. J. annual outing.
Aug. 21—Cincinnati Variety Club annual golf tournament, Summit Hills Country Club, Cincinnati.
Sept. 7-8—Allied States board of directors' meeting, Bretton Woods, N. H.

Study Phila. 48-Hr. Work Week Order

The action of the regional War Manpower Commission in Philadelphia in classifying the Philadelphia-Camden area as a critical labor shortage area and ordering a 48-hour work week for essential and locally needed industries in that area effective Sept. 1 is being studied by film company exchange operations heads and representatives of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee.

In previous instances where 48-hour work weeks have been ordered in cities in which exchanges are located, the exchange operations heads have filed for exemptions for their exchanges and have remained on the 40-hour week. In none of these instances, however, were the exchanges classified as "locally needed" establishments. "Locally needed" designations were secured for film exchanges from the regional WMC offices in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh several months ago.

Film exchanges are presently operating on a 40-hour work week in Philadelphia. A clarification on the position of the exchanges in Philadelphia is awaited, and the exchange operations heads will file for exemption from the 48-hour week if they are permitted to do so.

3 New Directors for Co-operative in Ohio

CLEVELAND, Aug. 1.—Milton A. Mooney, head of Co-operative Theatres of Ohio, a buying and booking organization, has been appointed a director of the newly formed Theatre Owners Co-operative Exchange of Ohio, to represent Northern Ohio. Maury White was named director covering Southern Ohio and Leo Yassenoff of Columbus is the third director.

The new organization has been formed by independent theatre owners to buy pictures on a state rights basis for the benefit of exhibitor share holders with all money over and above expenses to return to the stockholders.

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BATHING BEAUTY
CANTERVILLE GHOST
THE WINNERS!
TWO
BEAUTIES
FROM M-G-M


Red Skelton
Harry James
Esther Williams
Xavier Cugat
M-G-M presents
Technicolorful
BATHING
BEAUTY
Starring Red Skelton with Esther Williams, Basil Rathbone, Bill Goodwin, Ethel Smith, Jean Porter, Carlos Ramirez, Harry James and his Music Makers with Helen Forrest, Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra with Lina Romay. Photographed in Technicolor. Screen Play by Dorothy Kingsley, Allen Boretz and Frank Waldman. Adaptation by Joseph Schrank. Directed by George Sidney. Produced by Jack Cummings.


"DEAR MISTER







Margaret O'Brien

M-G-M presents
Star-rorious

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST





Starring Margaret O'Brien, Charles Laughton, Robert Young, with William Gargan, Reginald Owen, "Rags" Ragland, Una O'Connor. Screen Play by Edwin Harvey Blum. Based on "The Canterville Ghost" by Oscar Wilde. Directed by Jules Dassin. Produced by Arthur L. Field.



EXHIBITOR"

"Just two in my new Group No. 8, but a TERRIFIC twosome. 'Bathing Beauty,' the Astor honey is a nation-wide hit and 'Canterville Ghost' brings darling Margaret O'Brien back in a grand audience delight."

Sincerely,
Leo

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM



Keep selling those war bonds! Fight by the side of the troops who never stop!

BATHING BEAUTY

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

TWO BEAUTIES FROM M-G-M

BOX OFFICE MUSIC

Biddle Sends Decree Back To Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

General Wendell Berge, in charge of the Anti-Trust division, and Robert L. Wright, head of the film unit, Clark laid the proposals before Biddle last month and, in a brief conference, pointed out the deficiencies which he felt needed to be remedied, it was learned. The Attorney General studied the proposals and, it is understood, made suggestions to correct inadequacies which he saw in the document and turned the matter back to Clark for further efforts toward an agreement.

Just returned from a trip out of Washington, Clark said today that he had not yet checked upon the situation and could not predict the next move. It is expected, however, that the Attorney General's views will be transmitted to the companies in New York in the next few days but there was no indication that Clark planned immediately to meet personally with the distributors and it is probable that the initial steps toward further clarification of the proposals will be taken by correspondence.

The Department spokesman emphasized that the Attorney General's action was not in the nature of an ultimatum to the distributors. On the contrary, it was said, it gave the companies a clear-cut and well-defined blueprint of what the Department will require in any decree it accepts. Such a blueprint has heretofore been lacking, for while Clark could advise the companies what he felt should be incorporated in their proposals, it was always tacitly understood that the final decision lay with the Attorney General, whose views had not been definitely expressed.

Reports last week that the committee appointed by the 10 independent exhibitor organizations which met in Chicago last February would be given an opportunity to express their views on the decree before final action was taken by the Department appeared to come as a surprise to Clark, who said he has not talked with the independent representatives for some time and has made no arrangements to see them. However, he indicated, he is willing to talk to the exhibitors at any time.

SAG Weighs Sending D. C. Representative

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 1.—Screen Actors' Guild board last night studied a report from a committee which attended the recent meeting of all major talent guilds on the Treasury Department's proposed amendment to the wage stabilization rules to require prior approval of free lance contracts. Pending a second meeting of the guilds later in the week, SAG withheld its decision as to whether to send a representative to Washington to present the actors' views on the matter. Producers, although canvassing the talent groups for their opinions regard the effects of the amendment on production, have not yet set a date for a meeting at which they will draft a reply to the Treasury Department's communication.

Momand Case Decision Filed

(*Continued from page* 1)

spired with the owner of a Wewoka, Okla., theatre in violation of the Sherman Act. The Griffith Amusement Co. was held as having overbought product in Shawnee, Okla., in 1931 to keep Momand or other competitors from getting it.

The case which has been hanging fire since 1931 was filed by Momand, owner of a chain of 14 theatres, against 14 distributors and the Griffith interests. The case was tried in the early 1943 term of the Federal Court here.

Freed of any responsibility of law violation were 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Inc., Vitagraph, RKO Radio Pictures, United Artists, Universal Film Exchanges and the RKO Distributing Corp. Momand had alleged the 10 distributors and the Griffith chain had entered into a conspiracy to deny him licensing rights. He sought damages which, when figured with accrued interest, ran past $5,000,000. Judge Broaddus ruled as had been expected since a hearing on his tentative findings of fact was held early in June. The document containing his detailed study of the operations of the various companies involved is the longest opinion ever delivered in an Oklahoma court. Charles B. Cochrane, assistant general counsel for the Griffith interests, said he was unable to say whether an appeal would be filed from the $6,900 judgment, but he added that he considers the ruling a victory for his client. Henry B. Griffing, chief counsel for the Griffith interests, is out of the State on vacation.

Gem Theatre Files Some-Run Complaint

Joe E. Toma, operator of the Gem Theatre, Snyder, Okla., has filed a some-run complaint against the five consenting companies in the Oklahoma City tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The complaint alleges that Toma cannot obtain sufficient pictures from the consenting companies and requests the arbitrator to render an award directing them to sell him sufficient product so he can operate his theatre.

Loew's Shifts Foxe to Washington House

Jack Foxe, temporary manager of Loew's in Richmond has been transferred to Loew's Columbia in Washington, it was reported yesterday by Joseph R. Vogel of the home office here. Brock Whitlock, manager of Loew's in Reading, Pa., succeeds Foxe in Richmond while Lawrence R. Levy takes over the Reading house.

Sgt. Lewis Killed

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 1.—Sgt. P. Mortimer Lewis, III, son of P. Mortimer Lewis, Jr., partner in the Weiland-Lewis circuit here, was killed in action over England July 13, according to word received by his family from the War Department. Survivors include, in addition to his parents, a widow, a son and a daughter.

Ezell Seen Slated For McMurphey's Post Within OCR

(*Continued from page* 1)

Division. He attended its all-day meeting here, July 20, at which the OCR theatre construction program and the materials situation, as it affects exhibitors, were exhaustively canvassed.

An exhibitor of long experience, Ezell's appointment would bring to Washington as head of the Amusements Section a man thoroughly conversant with the wartime problems and needs of the theatre owners, and it is expected he would lay down a policy for the provision of needed amusements facilities which would accomplish its objective without injecting any disturbing elements into a situation which, at best, will be difficult after the end of the war, when a new migration of population may take place.

The ground work for a more conservative policy than that which marked the early operations of the Amusements Section and which aroused the strong opposition of independent exhibitors particularly on the West Coast, was laid at the meeting of the theatre committee last month by Willliam Y. Elliott, WPB vice-chairman for civilian requirements. At that time Elliott told the committee that the construction of new theatres will be severely limited and every effort will be devoted to providing existing houses with needed operating equipment. New theatres will be approved, he said, only when they can be demonstrated to be "absolutely essential," and much stiffer qualifications will be set up for the rating applications.

As reported exclusively by MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, Ezell is expected to arrive in Washington on Sunday to take up his new OCR post as a dollar-a-year man.

Navy Thanks RKO & WAC for Assistance

RKO and the War Activities Committee were commended at the weekend by Lt. L. L. Callaway, Jr. of the Navy for their cooperation in the WAVES' second anniversary celebration held Saturday at the RKO Alden Theatre here.

The program included personal appearances of Eddie Garr, radio comedian; Everett West of the "Rosalinda" cast and several members of the "Oklahoma" cast, secured through the WAC and RKO.

Sues WB Ohio Theatre

MANSFIELD, O., Aug. 1.—Mrs. Emily J. Fisher has filed a suit in Common Pleas Court here against Warners Ohio Theatre, managed by Steve Christ, claiming $500 "due her under 'bank night insurance'." Mrs. Fisher claims that, although she was properly registered at the theatre, which operates as the New Deal Bank Night Guaranty, the management refused to give her the award when she presented her ticket several days later in accordance with the "insurance" stipulation.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 1

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX added "Three Little Girls in Blue," a musical in Technicolor, to its schedule. William Lebaron will produce.

•

James B. Cassidy returned from a 6-week tour of South America, where he arranged for governmental cooperation in filming "Green Mansions."

•

Monogram elevated Fred Steele to studio and production managership, succeeding Ray Young.

•

Universal signed Anita Loos to write an original for Deanna Durbin.

•

David Rose entrains Aug. 9 for New York enroute to London.

Setting Filing for Exchange Pay Boost

(*Continued from page* 1)

tem of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for some 3,000 office workers employed in these exchanges. Further meetings are planned and it is expected that the applications will be ready for submission to the regional boards by the individual IATSE locals in about two weeks.

As previously reported, some 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum scales have been agreed upon between the IATSE and the eight film companies covering their film exchange "white collar" help. The classifications range from general file clerks and typists with minimums and maximums of $23-$33 a week to a $65-$85 a week scale for head bookers in large exchange centers with a slightly lower range for other places. Workers who are already receiving the minimums set or who would receive a flat 10 percent increase in being brought up to the minimums, would receive a flat 10 percent increase. All benefits are retroactive to December 1, 1943.

The delay in preparing the necessary forms for filing by the individual locals with the WLB offices in their region has been occasioned by the necessity of assembling considerable data on wage scales and conditions of employment going back as far as 1941. Pat Scollard, Paramount exchange operations head, is chairman of the committee which has been working with the IATSE officials in preparing the necessary forms. Yesterday's meeting was held in the Paramount board room with Paramount, Warner Bros., RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's Inc., Columbia, Universal and United Artists represented.

Cal. Theatre Council Approves By-Laws

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 1.—The California Theatre Council in its first meeting since its recent formation today approved the by-laws. A meeting in which officer elections will be on the agenda will take place Aug. 4.

'Wassell' Beats Par By $10,000 in First Phila. Week

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 1.—In spite of the heat business is holding up at the downtown houses for the new major openings. Leading is "The Story of Dr. Wassell," pointing to $30,000 at the Stanley in addition to $3,000 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. Save for "Going My Way" at the Mastbaum, figured on $22,400 for a fifth week, holdovers all slumped.

Estimated reecipts for the week ending August 2-4:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $14,600).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $4,000).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $18,000).

"The Yellow Canary" (RKO) (6 days)
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Frankie Carle's orchestra, Henny Youngman, Robert Sisters & Frances White, Phyllis Lynne, Lee Columbo and Paul Allen. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,600).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,500).

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,600).

"The Hitler Gang" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,800).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $22,400. (Average: $22,500).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,400).

Allied Offered New Independent Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

means of securing additional product from new distribution outlets is understood to have been offered these films with three independent producers figuring in their production.

To date, the committee headed by Irving Dollinger, president of Associated Theatres of New Jersey, has made no definite commitments for any product but it is understood that some form of action will be taken on the proposition at the Bretton Woods meeting since Martin G. Smith, National Allied president, has already indicated that the report of the committee is one of the items on the agenda for the meeting. Dollinger indicated here yesterday that the committee has also studied other possibilities of securing new product but he refused to divulge any further details as to the source of such product.

Mexico Drops Double Bills at 1st Runs

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 1.—Double features have been dropped by practically all first-run theatres here, with single features doing the biggest business in history. Prevailing top admission price, 85 cents, is also a new high.

Reviews

"Barbary Coast Gent"

[M-G-M]

Hollywood, Aug. 1

WALLACE BEERY portrays an 1880 J. Rufus Wallingford in this melodrama, which requires him to get dressed up and stay that way, but the film's not notably a departure otherwise from the style his sudio's been using to satisfy his following in recent years. It runs somewhat more to talk and less to action, although it contains a number of stage-coach robberies, and it gives him Binnie Barnes and John Carradine for running-mates but gives them little to do. The Barbary Coast figures in the picture only briefly as the place from which Beery starts on his adventures. These take place in Gold Town, a mining community which, it will be recalled, gave the picture its original title.

Oliver O. Dull produced and Roy Del Ruth directed it from a script by William R. Lipman, Grant Garrett and Harry Ruskin based on a story by Messrs. Lipman and Garrett. The tale presents Beery as a confidence man who tries to go straight after discovering a real gold mine but is caught up with by his past and, after performing some good deeds as well as robbing a number of stage-coaches to finance his honorable intentions, gets wounded in an old-fashioned six-gun battle and, finally, incarcerated in the town jail.

The cast includes, among others, Bruce Kellogg, Frances Rafferty, Chill Wills, Noah Beery, Sr., Henry O'Neill, Ray Collins, Morris Ankrum, Donald Meek and Louise Beavers.

Running time 88 minutes. Release date not set. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Shadows in the Night"

(Columbia)

CLEVER dialogue is a real factor in creating suspense in the Crime Doctor's latest case. Eerie atmosphere is achieved by placing the action within a sprawling brick mansion atop a cliff overlooking a bleak ocean cove. Warner Baxter, again in his role of the psychiatrist-detective, otherwise known as the Crime Doctor, turns in his usual capable performance.

Story concerns Nina Foch who, as victim of a strange hypnotic spell, appeals to Baxter to save her from self-destruction. After she tells him she is visited nightly by an apparition which beckons her to the sea, the Crime Doctor goes to her home where he is intrigued by the assortment of "guests," including pseudo-scientist George Zucco, down-and-out actor Lester Matthews, ex-convict Ben Welden and Matthew's poker-faced lawyer, Porter Hall. After a hectic weekend, highlighted by two murders, Baxter evolves a solution: Matthews, trying to prove Miss Foch's insanity for reasons of his own, assisted by a hypnotic gas concocted by Zucco plays a ghost. Matthews is shot attempting an escape.

Director Eugene J. Forde has handled Eric Taylor's screenplay, based on the radio program, "Crime Doctor," skillfully, getting the most from a competent cast. James S. Brown, Jr., is deserving of credit for an effective photographic job. "Shadows in the Night" has all the elements of a good mystery and represents one of the best in the "Crime Doctor" series to date. Rudolph Flothow produced.

Running time, 67 mins. "G."* Released July 27.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Ohio Admission Tax Shows 20% Increase

COLUMBUS, Aug. 1.—Ohio admission tax returns, computed on the basis of three per cent of grosses, totaled $1,237,845 for the first six months of this year, it has been revealed by Don H. Ebright, state treasurer. This figure represents an increase of about 20 per cent over last year.

Collection of the three per cent retail sales tax for the first half of 1944 yield $30,359, compared to $28,189 collected for the same period last year.

Lande Dies in Action

CLEVELAND, Aug. 1.—Sydney Lande, 32, formerly associated with his father, Harry A. Lande in independent distribution here, died in action in France, according to word received by his father.

Would Amend Film Phase of Vote Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

Senator Robert Taft of Ohio said he would seek later this week to modify.

Administration stalwarts Senators Green of Rhode Island and Lucas of Illinois introduced an amendment prohibiting the distribution only of Government-sponsored films and broadcasts, or periodicals which contain "political propaganda obviously designed to affect the result" of any election for President, Vice-President or members of Congress. The measure also provides that equal time must be given in rebroadcasts overseas to each political party which has a candidate for President in at least six states.

Urge Part of N.Y. Decree For Britain

(*Continued from page* 1)

thoritative sources that the Government probably will anticipate certain legislative proposals by suggesting that producers agree upon an informal pool of all studio space, not only that now available but likewise that which will be released after the war, with the BOT acting as unofficial arbiter of any disputes that arise.

The monopoly committee's report is being generally regarded by the trade as an amateurish approach to the problems involved, with this view supported by the terms of a committee covering letter to the BOT, inferring, in "milkwater" phrases, that broad conclusions only have been accepted. Whereas earlier council actions have been inspired clearly by the industry members, the present report expresses the views only of the lay members and says, virtually, "Ask the trade what it thinks." Such a course is now being adopted by Hugh Dalton, BOT president, who today circulated the report to all sections of the industry and solicited reactions.

It is clear that no legislation is impending, particularly as the present council leaves office immediately, with new and more qualified "independent persons" expected to be included in the new personnel.

UA Chicago Sales Meet Tomorrow

(*Continued from page* 1)

son of Kansas City will preside. The sessions will be attended by branch managers and salesmen from the following exchanges: Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis.

The company's Western sales meeting will be held at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco August 10-11, with Unger in attendance from the home office. District manager W. E. Callaway will preside with branch managers and salesmen from San Francisco, Denver, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City and Seattle in attendance. Representatives at both meetings will attend private showings of David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" and Edward Small's "Abroad With Two Yanks," two new U. A. releases.

WB Releases Short For 'Janie' Opening

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 1.—Warners will distribute a one-reel short entitled "Meet Joyce Reynolds" in advance of "Janie" openings, it was reported here today. The short, to be used for exploitation purposes only, is a substitute for Miss Reynolds' previously planned personal appearance tour, cancelled due to wartime travel restrictions.

Tone's Father Dies

NIAGARA FALLS, Aug. 1.—Franchot Tone, film star, was here recently to attend the funeral of his father, Dr. Frank J. Tone, 75, chairman of the board of Carborundum Co.



LOS ANGELES
Hill St.* and Pantages*

SAN FRANCISCO
Orpheum*

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Earle*
MOVE-OVER to Metropolitan

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
Bijou*



Edward G. ROBINSON
in COLUMBIA PICTURES'

Mr. Winkle goes to War



with RUTH WARRICK · TED DONALDSON · BOB HAYMES
Screen Play by Waldo Salt, George Corey, Louis Solomon
Produced by JACK MOSS · Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

From the BEST-SELLING NOVEL by Theodore Pratt

COLUMBIA PICTURES

* TOPS THE MORE THE MERRIER!

'Way' Soars To $65,000 In the Loop

CHICAGO, Aug. 1.—Most first run houses are enjoying fine business. Announcement of the eighth and last week of "Going My Way" at the Chicago boosted the final gross to a mighty $65,000. Leading twin bill house is the Garrick with "Meet the People" and "Make Your Own Bed" accounting for $17,000 for the first week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
CHICAGO — (3,850) (55c-85c-95c) 8th week. Stage: Ink Spots and revue. Gross: $65,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Meet the People" (M-G-M)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Follow the Leader" (Mono.) 6 days
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.) 1 day
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Abe Lyman and orchestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.) 6 days
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
"Step Lively" (RKO) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $29,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 5th week. ross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 14th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Way' Tops House Mark in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Aug. 1.—Establishing a house record for recent years for both first and second weeks, "Going My Way," after a tremendous $30,000 on the initial seven days at the RKO Palace, is zooming through to an estimated $23,000 on the holdover.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 2-5:

"Step Lively" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Yellow Rose of Texas" (Rep.)
"Silent Partner" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,400).
"Boss of Boomtown" (Univ.)
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days, 4th week, following two weeks at the Palace and 3rd week at Keith's. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Wilson"

(*Continued from page* 1)

sions of espousing his or any other's plan as a panacea for world ills. The opposition to the League, led by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, not only is presented in the picture, but is presented with intelligence and dignity. The ultimate defeat of Wilson's program is unequivocally made the responsibility, not of a faction or a political party, but of the American people and by their popular vote in the overwhelming election of Harding, who opposed the League, over Cox, who supported it.

When asked after the Harding election whether he believes hope remains for world peace, Wilson answering in the affirmative, says that it may come in a different and better form than any of its champions conceived for it. There is no suggestion of what that form might be. The picture's pleading, if it can be said fairly that it pleads at all, is for an attempt to achieve a permanent peace. That objective is not controversial.

APART from being a distinguished picture of a historic period in the life of the nation, "Wilson" is an engrossing film biography of one of the nation's outstanding Presidents. Played by Alexander Knox, the character assumes the power and dignity of a great statesman and scholarly idealist, yet retains the charm and simplicity of the family man. Presumably his happiest years were those spent with his first wife, played by Ruth Nelson, and three daughters, Mary Anderson, Ruth Ford and Madeleine Forbes, at Princeton before he was projected into politics as the Democratic candidate for governor of New Jersey.

Embarked upon his political career, he repudiates Democratic "bossism" in New Jersey and, the inference is plain, was "kicked upstairs" by the state bosses who saw an opportunity to be rid of him if the Democratic Presidential nomination could be obtained for him.

The death of his first wife and the war in Europe, early in his first term as President, took their toll of him. His efforts to maintain American neutrality despite German submarine warfare culminate in a stormy night session with the German ambassador, Count Von Bernstorff. The declaration of war follows. Married to Edith Bolling, played by Geraldine Fitzgerald, Wilson's domestic life again takes on much of the sparkle and sociability of the earlier years. There follows the Armistice, his visit to Versailles, the development at home of the opposition to the League of Nations, his return to put the issues before the people, the breaking of his health and the defeat of his cause with the election of Harding.

KNOX's performance as Wilson is a distinguished one. Under Henry King's direction there are few false notes anywhere in the long and lavish production in Technicolor. Scores of supporting roles of figures prominent in the Wilson Administration and era are played expertly, giving the production a cumulative polish that contributes much to its extraordinary quality. Among such performances, in addition to those mentioned, are those of Sir Cedric Hardwicke as Senator Lodge, Charles Coburn, as a personal friend of Wilson's; Thomas Mitchell as Joseph Tumulty; Vincent Price as McAdoo; William Eythe as George Felton; Sidney Blackmer as Josephus Daniels, and scores of others.

Extraordinary production values are apparent throughout the film's two hours and 35 minutes running time. Interior scenes within the White House are numerous and, photographed in Technicolor from handsome reproductions, are a showman's show in themselves. Equally impressive are scenes of Wilson giving his war message to Congress in the Capitol; the Peace Conference at Versailles; the Democratic nomination conventions of 1912 and 1916, in which thousands of extras participate.

The subject of Wilson and his era is a big one. So is the Zanuck production. Occasionally, individuals are almost obscured in the magnitude of the happenings about them, but Knox retains the ability to bring them back into personal focus. It appears that the picture could have been shortened somewhat, particularly in early sequences which tend to lag, and by the omission of newsreels of the World War period which have been injected too profusely even for their atmospheric value. In their use, too, the break from color film and fine modern photography to black and white "flickers" of 1917-'19 is a disturbing contrast.

Lamar Trotti's screenplay is a fine accomplishment of a difficult assignment. The production is tops in all technical departments. It is a picture that ranks high among the screen's most ambitious undertakings. It is one for which its producers deserve to be rewarded richly.

Running time, 155 minutes. Classification, "G."

SHERWIN KANE

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Zanuck's 'Wilson' In Debut Here

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the political, commercial and social worlds.

George Jessel, 20th-Fox producer, officiated at the radio broadcast of the premiere over eight metropolitan stations from the lobby. He was assisted by Ethel Colby in interviewing distinguished personalities.

Among those present were:

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Bernard Baruch, Ray Stannard Baker, Senator A. B. Chandler, Josephus Daniels, Mrs. James Doolittle, Eleanor Wilson McAdoo.

Ned E. Depinet, William Scully, Robert Riskin, E. T. Gomersall, Clarence Menser, Major Monroe Greenthal, Sidney Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Willkie, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Welles, Dr. H. H. Kung, Paul Nathanson, Eddie Golden, Robert Mochrie, C. C. Moskowitz, Sam Schneider, S. Barret McCormick, Adolph Schimel, George Schaefer, Ralph Branton, Robert O'Donnell, Sidney Samuelson, Ben Geldsaler, N. Peter Rathvon, Emily Oppa, Mort Blumenstock, Mike Todd, Haskell Masters, Harold Mirisch, Eddie Alperson, W. Stewart McDonald, Dave Levy, Myer Schine, Bert Sanford, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Smith, Jr., George Carrington, William and Irving Wheeler, Paul Terry, Jack Shea, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mandel, Col. H. A. Cole, Oscar Doob, E. C. Grainger and family, Skouras, Zanuck, Si Fabian, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Smith, Phil Williams, Henry King, Col. E. L. Johnson, Meyer Fine, Sam Rosen, Jack Kirsch, A. H. Blank and William Jenkins.

Also, M. B. Horowitz, Lou Berman, Lamar Trotti, Herbert Bayard Swope, Albert Lasker, Martin Quigley, Colvin Brown, Winthrop Aldrich, Mrs. Ogden Reid, Ray Larson, Henry Luce, Juan Trippe, Charles Feldman, George Jessel, Gene Tierney, Geraldine Fitzgerald, William Bendix, Carmen Miranda, Thomas Mitchell, and others.

'Take It' Takes $24,000 in Denver

DENVER, Aug. 1.—"Take It or Leave It" on a dual at the Denver took $24,000 for the week while at the Paramount "This Is the Life" clicked to the tune of $15,345.

Estimated receipts for the week ending July 31-Aug. 3:

"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $7,840. (Average: $5,600).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,825. (Average: $3,900).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $9,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Port of Forty Thieves" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,345. (Average: $9,300).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Detective Kitty O'Day" (Mono.)
RIALTO — (900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

At Last Night's Premiere of "Wilson"

IN a notable premiere, Darryl F. Zanuck's production, "Wilson," made its bow at the Roxy Theatre last night. Proud 20th Century-Fox home office and studio executives beamed on their guests who included top officials of other film companies and several hundred representative exhibitors. Herewith are some of those caught by the camera.

(*All photos by Floyd Stone, Quigley Publications Staff Photog*)



Ohio exhibitors Meyer Fine, M. B. Horowitz, Lew Berman and Izzy Smertz.



Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president and Darryl Zanuck, producer of "Wilson".



Haskell M. Masters and Paul N. Nathanson of Empire-Universal Films and Odeon Theatres, Can.



N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, and Mrs. Rathvon arrive at the Roxy.



E. C. Grainger, Feiber & Shea Circuit president, with Mrs. Grainger and members of family.



Left: W. A. Scully, Universal vice-president and Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio Pictures.



Sumner Welles, Assistant Secretary of State, and Wendell Willkie, 20th Century-Fox board chairman, with Mrs. Ogden Reid.



LAST NIGHT

in a solidly sold-out house, 6,000 person
—including famous exhibitors, distinguish
critics, celebrities from many fields and
ticket-buyers who had waited in line for
hours to jam the theatre—cheered and
acclaimed the world premiere of
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S production

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

at the **ROXY, N.Y.**

20th Century-Fox suggests that today
you make it a point to read what
the reviewers say.

Directed by HENRY KING • Written by LAMAR TROTTI

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 23 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 1944 TEN CENTS

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British Trade Sees Bid for State Control

BOT Monopoly Report Arouses Industry

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Aug. 2. — Implied suggestions in the monopoly report of the Board of Trade Films Council, made public yesterday, that the government exercise control of the British film industry caused considerable stir in industry trade circles here today.

Issuance of the report was marked by the summary return to London of J. Arthur Rank from a brief vacation. Rank met with all of his associates immediately in a conference which was still in progress late today.

The report was prominently displayed in today's newspapers and was given considerable attention by the British Broadcasting Corp. Nevertheless, lobby opinion at the House of Commons holds to the belief that any legis-

(Continued on page 4)

Rank Pays Million For Regal, London

LONDON, Aug. 2.—J. Arthur Rank reportedly has completed negotiations for purchase of the Regal, 2,500-seat theatre here overlooking Marble Arch, from A. E. Abrahams for $1,000,000. The house has been under lease for the past 16 years to Hyde Park Cinemas, a subsidiary of Associated British Pictures Corp.

Due to the fact that Rank's negotiations for the house were initiated prior to Rank's current non-expansion agreement with the Board of Trade, the acquisition will not require the Board's approval.

Ascap Sues 5 Houses For Use of Music

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 2. — Hearings began here yesterday in the suit brought by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers against five local theatres for alleged copyright violations by the theatres in using copyrighted songs on their sound tracks without payment of the annual seat-licensing fees collected by ASCAP.

ASCAP collects an annual fee of

(Continued on page 4)

Industry Faced by 20% Slash in Raw Stock Supply

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Representatives of the industry will be called to Washington next week by Lincoln V. Burroughs, chief of the War Production Board motion picture section, to discuss proposals for a formal directive cutting back raw stock consumption during the last half of the current quarter.

Operating for the past few weeks on a voluntary 10 per cent curtailment of film use, the WPB found that a greater cut will be required to offset increased military and lend-lease requirements coming at a time when the raw stock manufacturers were reducing output because of vacations and their annual clean-up.

Actual extent of the reduction in consumption which will be required

(Continued on page 4)

Rogers' Illness May Defer Schine Trial

The Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, presently recessed to Aug. 15, may be further postponed if Saul Rogers, chief counsel for Schine, has not recovered sufficiently from a recent operation to assume an active part in the defense, it was learned here yesterday.

Willard S. McKay, also of counsel for Schine, was in Delaware, Ohio, Tuesday, where Robert L. Wright, U. S. Department of Justice attorney, took depositions from Henry Bieberson and John Buchman, Jr., exhibitors

(Continued on page 8)

Send in Your Fifth War Loan Reports

Industry Fifth War Loan campaign headquarters yesterday reiterated its appeal to all exhibitors who participated in the drive to complete their reports on sales and forward them to drive headquarters. It was emphasized that the number or amount of individual sales is of minor significance. The principal objective of getting in the reports is to make possible the compilation of a complete record of the industry's performance in the Fifth, which will stand as a permanent and official record of the industry's achievement.

New Producer in PRC Expansion

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 2.—An unnamed producer controlling several personalities, directors and authors will merge with PRC shortly and produce four to six features for the 1945-46 program, Leon Fromkess stated today. PRC will finance but the producer will maintain his own identifying trademark on a profit sharing basis.

In an initial interview since his New York return, where he was elected PRC president, Fromkess described the future pattern in declaring 1,116 new accounts had been added in the last 30 days, thus pointing to 6,500 of a total served this year, and

(Continued on page 8)

16mm Prints for Army Approach 40,000 Mark

The motion picture industry's gift of 16mm prints of feature films and short subjects to the U. S. Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service for showing to our troops stationed throughout the world totaled 17,362 prints of feature pictures and 21,977 prints of short subjects including newsreel clips, from February, 1942, when the gifts first began to the week ended July 29, 1944.

The present print order of the Army Motion Picture Service is more than 200 film programs weekly. A program consists of a feature picture and at least one short subject, plus a specially edited newsreel.

The War Activities Committee, which handles the industry's weekly flow of prints to the Army Motion Picture Service for overseas showing, provided 322 prints of features and 106 prints of short subjects during the week ended July 29, in line with the stepped-up requirements of the Army. The entire cost of the prints is borne by the film company that makes the gift. The new films included in the 322 prints delivered to the Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service in New York last week included International's "Casanova Brown," Warner's "Mr. Skeffington," Columbia's "Mr. Winkle Goes to War," 20th Century-Fox's "Take It Or Leave It" and "Candlelight in Algeria," RKO's "The Falcon in Mexico" and Republic's "The Port of 40 Thieves."

During the week ended July 22, the

(Continued on page 4)

See No New Decree at This Time

Companies Await Next Move by Justice Dept.

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

Attorneys for the five consent decree companies are understood to be waiting for the Department of Justice to make the next move now that their "final" proposals for a revised consent decree have been found unacceptable by Attorney General Francis Biddle.

Meanwhile, there is speculation in industry circles that the Government will not take any action now or in the near future to either seek a revised decree or to press its anti-trust suit against the distributors.

It is pointed out that the provisions of the present decree as they affect methods of selling, circuit expansion, arbitration and other phases of distributor-exhibitor relations remain in

(Continued on page 8)

Coast Exhibitors in Organization Feud

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 2.—First gun in the threatened strife between local exhibitor organizations was fired last night when the Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona, in its annual meeting, noted the recent formation of the Southern California Theatres Association and The California Theatre Council, without naming them, and passed a resolution stressing SCOTA's record for cooperation in matters affecting all theatres alike, but specifying that continuation of this cooperation must be by the entire organization and not by

(Continued on page 4)

Allied States Heads Confer in New York

Leaders of Allied States Association who are visiting New York met for several hours at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday. Among those who attended were Martin G. Smith, Abram F. Myers, Col. H. A. Cole, Jack Kirsch and William L. Ainsworth.

When questioned about the nature of the meeting late yesterday, Myers replied, "We just shmoosed".

Personal Mention

HAL WALLIS is scheduled to arrive in New York from the Coast today.

•

ENRIQUE BAEZ, United Artists' Brazilian manager, and VICTOR SCHOCHET, the company's Peruvian manager, have arrived here from their respective headquarters in Rio de Janeiro and Lima.

•

IRVING MANDEL, Monogram franchise holder now vacationing in Los Angeles, will return to his Chicago headquarters in time for the company's national sales meeting Aug. 12-13.

•

L. E. GOLDHAMMER, RKO Midwest district manager, who will soon join Film Classics as vice-president and general sales manager, is in Minneapolis this week on business.

•

MOE SILVER, Pittsburgh zone manager for Warner Theatres; HARRY FEINSTEIN, his assistant, and C. J. LATTA, Albany zone manager, are in New York for a few days.

•

DAVID O. SELZNICK is expected in New York from the Coast today en route to Chesepeake Bay for a vacation.

•

LOUIS D. FROHLICH, film attorney, will leave for Spring Lake, N. J., tomorrow for a vacation with his family.

•

CHARLES SCHWERIN, manager of the Strand Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., is in New York on vacation.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, has returned from a trip to Washington.

Depinet, Mochrie to Conferences on Coast

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio, and Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, will leave today by plane for Hollywood to spend about two weeks conferring with Charles W. Koerner, studio head, on forthcoming product and looking at some of the completed pictures which will be released during 1944-45.

S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity, and Terry Turner, chief of the field exploitation staff, will leave for Hollywood tomorrow by train to join Depinet and Mochrie in conference with studio officials on promotional plans for the new season's pictures.

Beauties to WB House

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 2.—The Warner Theatre on the Boardwalk has been leased for the third consecutive year by the Miss America Pageant committee for the preliminary and final judging in the annual beauty contest set for Sept. 6-9.

Connors Holds Sales Talks on 'Wilson'

Discussion of the selling of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" featured the informal sales conferences here yesterday called by Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution. Connors expects to hold a similar meeting with Western sales representatives of the company when the film has its Pacific Coast premiere. He emphasized that the discussions did not constitute a company sales meeting and indicated that regional sales meetings may be held in the near future.

Elsewhere it was learned that one of the principal reasons for bringing sales representatives to New York to see the opening of "Wilson" was the company's inability to secure sufficient Technicolor prints immediately to show the film in the various exchange centers prior to launching the sales campaign.

Meanwhile, the majority of the 350 out-of-town exhibitors who came East for the premiere were hosted by Connors at a buffet luncheon at the Movietone studio yesterday. Following the luncheon they were conducted through the studio to see how Movietone newsreels are produced. 20th-Fox executives who participated included W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, L. J. Schlaifer, A. W. Smith, Jr., Martin Moskowitz and William J. Clark. A partial list of exhibitors who attended included Harry Arthur, A. H. Blank, Ralph Branton, Col. H. A. Cole, Irving B. Dollinger, Nick Dipson, Fred Dolle, Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, John Friedle, J. J. Fitzgibbons, L. C. Griffith, Karl Hoblitzelle, John Harris, Jack Kirsch, Bob O'Donnell, Walter Reade, E. C. Rhoden, E. V. Richards, Edward Rowley, Jules Rubens, R. B. Wilby and others. The majority of the exhibitors who came to New York for the premiere are returning home today.

Richard de Rochemont, MOT Producer, is entertaining the 20th Century-Fox home office executives, district and branch managers who are here this week for the 20th Century-Fox sales conference at a cocktail party today in the Rose Room of the Astor Hotel. Those who will be present from The March of Time are: Howard Black, John Wood, D. Yancey Bradshaw and Phil Williams.

'Wilson' Sets Opening Day Record at Roxy

With 14,107 customers paying $12,997 up to 6 p.m. yesterday the Roxy Theatre in New York was well on the way to establishing a new all-time opening day record of $20,000 with Darryl F. Zanuck's Technicolor "Wilson."

The previous Roxy record holder was 20th Century-Fox's "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," which brought in $15,350 on its opening day last Winter.

Beall to Washington On 'Fifth' Report

Ray Beall, industry publicity director for the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan, will go to Washington today to report to U. S. Treasury officials on campaign returns that have been flowing in from exhibitors in the field and expects to be authorized to issue a report, possibly Friday. He will continue to Dallas, where he is associated with Interstate Theatres, returning here late this month to wind up business on the drive.

R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, who returned here from the Coast Monday, will leave for his Dallas Interstate headquarters in about a week.

UA Midwest Sales Meet Opens Today

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—United Artists will open its two-day Midwest regional sales meeting in the Blackstone Hotel here tomorrow, presided over by Carl Leserman, general sales manager; J. J. Unger, Western division manager, and Rud Lohrenz, and T. R. Thompson, Jr., Chicago and Kansas City district managers.

The following have arrived for the meeting: G. R. Frank, Elmer Donnelly, Guy Hancock, Milton Krueger, and Al Chew, Indianapolis; Nat Nathanson, Moe Provencher, William Young, Ed Korfta, and Kenneth Siem, Milwaukee; R. S. Cramblet, Charles Weiner, Norwood Hall, E. J. Stoller, Irving Vinokour, Claude Dickinson, and Lou Hummell, Jr., Minneapolis; B. J. McCarthy, A. H. Day, E. E. Rudolph, and Jack Kane, St. Louis; D. V. McLucas, H. R. Barker, A. Mendenhall, Carl Reese, E. B. Rostermundt, and Sydney McArdle, Omaha; W. E. Truog, Paul Hannon, J. T. Manfre, G. I. Bradford, John T. Graham, and Morton Truog, Kansas City. Chicago will be represented by Sid Rose, Julian King, Abe Fischer, Morris Hellman, Jack Armgardt, R. M. Allen, Frank Young, Oscar Bernstein, and Claud Morris.

McCarthy Holds PRC Meet in Boston

Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager, will leave here for Boston tomorrow where he will conduct a regional sales meeting over the weekend, returning Monday.

Sidney Kulick, Eastern divisional sales manager, will accompany him. The latter will then continue on a swing through New England and the Midwest territory covering the Albany, Buffalo and Cleveland exchanges, finishing up in Pittsburgh, Washington and Philadelphia. He will be gone four weeks.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug.

TOM REED has been signed by t Producers Corp., of America write the screenplay for "O'Brier Navy." Harry Joe Brown will pr duce, and release will be through U

•

Carole Mathews has been signed a long term contract by Columbi Her first assignment will be one the leads in "Hello Mom."

•

Charles Cooper, 18-year-old lif guard at Santa Monica, has bee signed by Hal B. Wallis to a lon term contract.

•

Jerry Hoffman resigned from th Columbia publicity department to joi Sol Lesser as director of advertisin and publicity.

Secret Service Alert To Bond Cash Thefts

The Government Secret Service department will henceforth interest itself in thefts and irregularities in connection with the sale of war bonds in theatres, according to word reaching the Loew circuit from Washington yesterday.

The fact that the Federal sleuths will become active in trailing theatre employees who steal money representing war bond sales, is expected to be a deterrent to theatre workers who might be tempted by the large amounts into which bond sales run on busy days.

According to Oscar A. Doob of Loew's, the Secret Service has taken up the case of an employee of a Loew house in Memphis who disappeared simultaneously with theatre deposits of some $7,000. Of that amount, more than $800 was money covering bond sales.

Anna Ellmer Feted By Loew Executives

Anna D. Ellmer, office manager of Loew's publicity department, was honored at luncheon in the company's penthouse dining room yesterday by Loew executives on the occasion of her 30th anniversary with the company.

Nicholas M. Schenck presented Miss Ellmer with a damond-studded service pin. Among those attending were Schenck, C. C. Moskowitz, Martin Schenck, Oscar A. Doob, Ernest Emerling, E. C. Dowden, J. Robert Rubin, Leopold Friedman and Howard Dietz.

Amalgamated Formed

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 2.—Amalgamated Theatres, film buying and booking firm, has filed a certificate of organization with the Secretary of State. Officers are: Lewis Ginsburg, president; Alice Levy, vice-president; Rita B. Ginsburg, secretary and Bernard W. Levy, treasurer. Levy was formerly manager of the Hartford Proven Pictures Theatre and Ginsburg was associated with Universal's sales department in New England.

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IT TOOK WARNERS TO TOP WARNERS' "TASK FORCE" WITH "DEVIL BOATS"



The Action short of the year! BOOK IT NOW!

...le authentic,
...ely, heroic story
...f the Navy's
...eaded PT boats—
...nd the gallant men
...ho roar into battle
...board 'em!

...service short to write home
...but . . . deserves best book-
...time and featured billing."
– SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW

...Trills and excitement abound
. . . deserves booking in every
...erican theater."
– FILM DAILY

This 1-sheet poster (in full color 27" x 41") available at your Warner Bros. exchange.

...'S ANOTHER OF THOSE GREAT TECHNICOLOR SPECIALS!

...EP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!"

British Trade Sees Bid for State Control

(*Continued from page* 1)

lation as a result of the report is unlikely for a long time, if ever.

General trade opinion holds that the report clearly evidences its authors' ideological opposition to Rank's economic ideas; that it manifests an amateurish lack of appreciation of the difficulties of American companies in marketing British films by advocating the production of medium cost features, rather than large scale productions equivalent to Hollywood's, and that it carries the thinly veiled suggestion that the government take control of the nation's film industry in its advocacy of a finance corporation, a tribunal dominating the industry and its proposal that the government negotiate with Washington for aid in artificially stimulating the American market for British films.

Balcon Discusses Report

The report was received enthusiastically by Michael Balcon, whose tenure as a member of the Films Council is expected to be ended when that group is reorganized soon. Balcon termed it "the most progressive document ever issued in connection with British films" and said it places British producers "at the eve of a new and glorious epoch." Discussing the problems of independent producers here, Balcon said they had been increased by Sir Alexander Korda's return to produce for M-G-M, adding that Korda, by virtue of prior arrangements, has the prospective right to one-third of the Denham studio space.

Korda said if the monopoly committee's recommendations are accepted "the death knell will be sounded for British films. Not even British filmgoers, let alone American, are content with medium-priced or mediocre pictures," Korda said. He denied that Balcon is an "independent" and pointed out that Balcon's distribution company recently reissued Korda's "Lady Hamilton," which, Korda said, currently is outgrossing the pick of Balcon's new product.

"As soon as the government releases my lately purchased Elstree studio, I will go there, and let anyone who wills have Denham," Korda said.

The monopoly report contains no charge or evidence of any collusive action by American companies or the Hays organization to gain control of British screens.

S. H. Steifel Plans To Produce Films

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 2.—Samuel H. Steifel, independent circuit operator, has turned over the operation of his theatres here and in Baltimore and Washington, to his brother, Alexander Stiefel, preparatory to moving to Hollywood, where he has completed an important transaction for producing motion pictures. A business associate of Edward Sherman of Biltmore Productions, it is reported that Steifel will be associated with the Biltmore organization.

Review

"Sweet and Low-Down"

[20th Century-Fox]

WHEN better musicals are made 20th Century-Fox, among others, will help to make them. For in "Sweet and Low-Down," it has hit upon a smooth formula that denotes top entertainment and substantial rewards at the boxoffice: Item, Benny Goodman and band playing swing that is satin-smooth; item, a heart-warming story of a young musician whose head is turned by his rise to the heights but eventually repents; some jumpy swing tunes strictly in the vernacular; and capable performances by Linda Darnell, Lynn Bari, Jack Oakie and James Cardwell, among others.

Cardwell, as the young trombone-player who catches Goodman's fancy and is helped to stardom in the Goodman band, is just right in his delineation of a brash youngster who becomes chastened when he realizes that his success is not entirely his own. From drab Halsted Street in Chicago, Cardwell whirled into the glittering world of the big-time musician. En route, he has met Miss Darnell, a society girl; Miss Bari, Goodman's vocalist, and Oakie, a Goodman retainer. The sensitive youngster is enraged when he overhears a slighting remark about his family while attending a party at Miss Darnell's home. He turns on Goodman when the band leader rebukes him for becoming involved in the brawl, and also walks out of Miss Darnell's life. Cardwell, responding to the honeyed words of Allyn Joslyn, an agent, forms his own band only to flop miserably, although many of the combination are Goodman's men. He goes back to Chicago but is rescued from oblivion by Oakie who has to forcibly drag him to Goodman and Miss Darnell.

Archie Mayo's top-notch direction logically weaves story and music; William Le Baron's production is lavish without being ostentatious, and Richard English did the screenplay from an original by Edward Haldeman and himself. The score, by Mack Gordon and James Monaco, is good with "I'm Making Believe" outstanding. Miss Bari handles the vocal assignments capably. Lucien Ballard's camera work is distinctive, especially in sequences highlighting musicians' hands wielding their instruments. "Sweet and Low-Down" is engaging screen fare and maintains the 20-Fox reputation for entertaining musicals.

Running time, 75 mins. "G"*. Release in September.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

16mm Prints Near To 40,000 Mark

(*Continued from page* 1)

WAC turned over 114 black and white prints of features; 16 prints of color films; and prints of 195 short subjects. Films included were M-G-M's "Bathing Beauty," Warner's "Saratoga Trunk," Paramount's "The Great Moment," United Artists' "Sensations of 1945," Republic's "Secrets of Scotland Yard," and PRC's "Minstrel Man."

Distribution of the films by the U. S. Army film exchange in Great Britain is about to get under way on a sizeable scale in Normandy following the Allied invasion forces. The films will be shown at the discretion of the combat commanders through the Army's Special Services Branch with the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service supplying the programs.

Prints delivered to the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service here are routed by this branch throughout the world. It is understood that the prints are promptly shipped overseas with the Army exchange regulating the flow of programs.

E. Lawrence Dies

LAKE SECOR, N. Y., Aug. 2.—Edmund Lawrence, 75, former silent film director, died here recently at his summer home. One-time Shakespearean actor, Lawrence entered the motion picture field when laryngitis ended his acting career. Surviving is a daughter with whom he made his home in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Coast Exhibitors in Organization Feud

(*Continued from page* 1)

individuals through personal memberships in other organizations. SCOTA was formed July 11, CTC July 25.

ITO elected Fred Siegel, T. E. Tobin, Stanley Stock and George Bromley to succeed Mrs. Jenne Dodge, Ned Calvi, Al Galston and Harry Rackin, to the board of directors. Re-elected were Hugh W. Bruen, Gerald Gallagher and George Diamos.

Ida Schreiber, ITO office secretary for the past 10 years, was presented with a gift in tribute for her services. She resigned to accept a position with Film Classics Distributors.

Ascap Sues 5 Houses For Use of Music

(*Continued from page* 1)

10 cents per seat from small theatres and 15 cents per seat from large theatres with some 13,000 theatres in the U. S. paying the fee. Judge Gunnar H. Nordbye is presiding at the hearing being held in Federal Court and other exhibitors who are subject to the same fees are said to be watching the course of the legal action with interest.

'Man' Run Extended

PRC's "Minstrel Man," now playing at the Fox Fabian in Brooklyn has had its run extended to four weeks, the local office has reported.

Industry Faced by 20% Slash in Raw Stock Supply

(*Continued from page* 1)

has not yet been determined, but it is probable it will run in the neighborhood of 20 per cent, it was learned today.

The present film stringency has been building up over a period of four months. While the favorable inventory and production position in the first quarter made it possible for distributors to accept deliveries in excess of quotas without objection from the WPB, foreign demands and military requirements began to impose a strain in the early spring, and the greatly expanded demand following the invasion of France, the inability of the British manufacturers to meet their commitments to other countries, requiring the furnishing of the film from the United States, and the usual summer drop in output combined to bring about the present situation. The only alleviating factor was the cutting off of raw stock exports to Argentina because of its unfriendly censorship but the film so saved was negligible.

Close Watch on Conditions

Meanwhile, the motion picture section was keeping a close watch on conditions, and during the spring advised the companies to take only their quotas of film. On the whole, it is understood, the industry honored that request, although one or two companies continued to receive excess supplies.

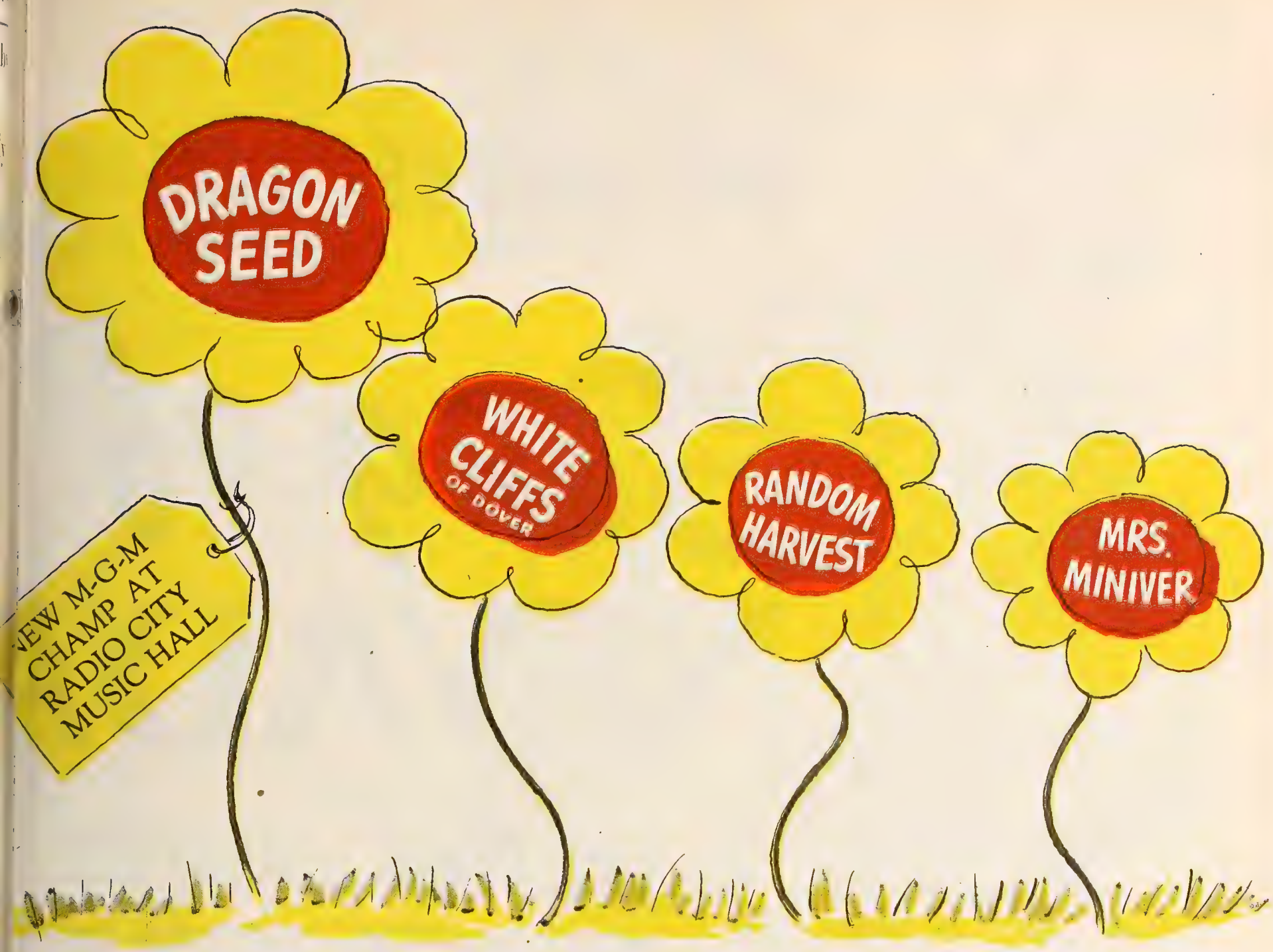
The individual companies have been kept fully advised of the developing situation and already know what to expect. They are being called to Washington, however, for a full discussion of the proposed directive, which is believed to be preferable to rationing of film by the manufacturers, assuring the companies that all are being treated on the same basis.

The present situation is only temporary, and it is believed that the cut in supplies can be eliminated next quarter, by which time the manufacturers are expected to be back on full capacity production, and particularly if the military situation in Europe improves to a point where the end of that phase of the war draws close.

It is emphasized here that there is enough raw stock to meet all essential needs, if properly handled in such a way as to insure equitable distribution, and it is not believed that any interest in the industry will be adversely affected, particularly in view of the extended runs which are currently being enjoyed by a number of pictures.

2 New Corporations Set in New York

ALBANY, Aug. 2.—Certificates of incorporation filed with the Secretary of State include those for "Boccaccio on Broadway," legitimate theatre production with directors listed as Edward Carlin, Thomas Baylek and Alexander Berl, all of New York City and the Mexico-Hollywood-New York Artists Bureau Inc., theatrical business with directors listed as Albert G. McCarthy, Jr., David Muss and Lillian Tasker.



Another harvest from the good earth of

M-G-M's "DRAGON SEED" . KATHARINE HEPBURN, WALTER HUSTON, ALINE MacMAHON, AKIM TAMIROFF, TURHAN BEY, Hurd Hatfield, J. Carrol Naish, Agnes Moorehead, Henry Travers, Robert Bice, Robert Lewis, Frances Rafferty, Jacqueline DeWit. Screen Play by Margaret Roberts and Jane Murfin. Based on the Novel by Pearl S. Buck. Directed by Jack Conway and Harold S. Bucquet. Produced by Pandro S. Berman

MGM

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924-1944 MGM

"KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. RIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!"

ROY ROGERS · TRIGGER

KING OF THE COWBOYS — SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MO





Song of NEVADA

Featuring

DALE EVANS *and* MARY LEE

with LLOYD CORRIGAN • THURSTON HALL

BOB NOLAN

and the

SONS OF THE PIONEERS



Directed by: Joseph Kane

Original Screenplay by: Gordon Kahn — Olive Cooper

IT'S A SONG OF ADVENTURE— ROMANCE— AND THRILLS!

Get in tune with Roy—as he takes you along on his most exciting roundup of fun and melody!

SONGS

"It's Love, Love, Love!"

"New Moon Over Nevada"

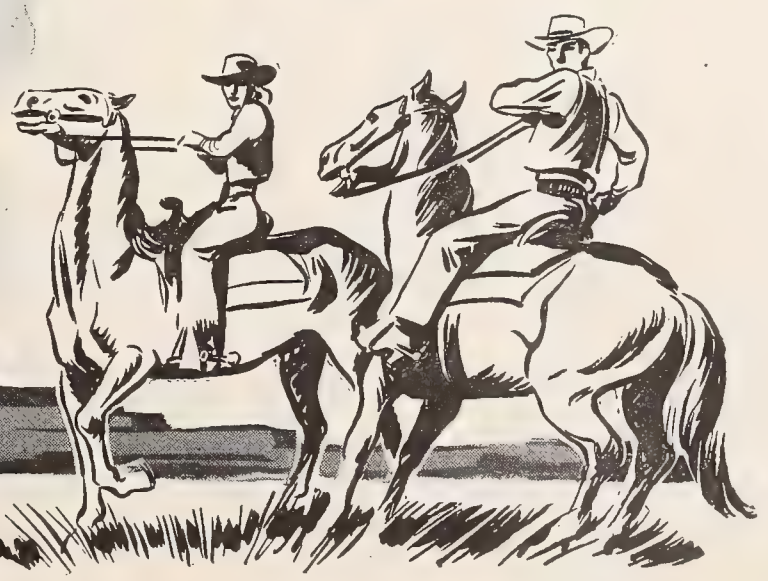
"Hi Ho Little Dogies"

"What Are We Goin' To Do?"

"Harum Scarum Baron Of The Harmonium"

"A Cowboy Has To Yodel In The Morning"





A REPUBLIC PICTURE

See No New Decree at This Time

(*Continued from page* 1)

force and are binding both upon the companies and the Government unless either party attempts to seek release from these conditions. The only important decree provisions which have lapsed are those which apply to the selling of films in blocks, tradeshowing them before they are offered for sale, and those provisions which prevent the five consenting companies from engaging in the expansion of their theatre circuits.

Since the distributors have continued to sell their films in blocks, tradeshowing them before they are sold, and since they have not engaged in any attempt to expand their theatre circuits even though these trade practices are no longer covered by decree provisions, the former having expired after a year of selling under the decree and the latter with the end of the three year trial period of the decree, it is understood that if the companies continued these practices, the Department of Justice might not make any move at this time to alter the situation.

Liberal Concessions Sought

During the months of negotiations between the Department of Justice and the five decree companies, the Government has sought more liberal concessions from the companies on methods of selling, expansion and arbitration. The companies have made some concessions which are apparently unacceptable to the Department of Justice. In view of the fact that the Government now appears to be faced with either one or two alternatives if the distributors refuse to make any further concessions which they claim would be economically unsound to the future conduct of their business, it is not seen as likely that the Department of Justice will go to trial with the anti-trust case at the present time. The second alternative would be to do nothing either until the end of the war or for a certain designated number of years and then see what type of new consent decree could be arrived at in the light of business conditions that exist at that future time.

B & K Ceiling Falls In Chicago; 7 Hurt

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—Seven persons were injured, none seriously, when a portion of the ceiling of the United Artists Theatre, first-run Balaban & Katz house here, collapsed yesterday afternoon, supposedly because of faulty roof repairs. The theatre reopened today after city inspectors found it safe.

The Apollo, another B. & K. first-run house, closed since fire damaged it July 12, will reopen around Aug. 18 with "Gaslight."

British Dub 1066

LONDON, Aug. 2.—A total of 1,066 British films, exclusive of newsreels, have been dubbed in 17 languages for release in liberated countries, Sidney L. Bernstein, film liaison to the Ministry of Information, stated in a report here this week.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"WILSON" (20th Century-Fox)

New York

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, *Howard Barnes*—A challenging segment of American history has been reconstructed with great honesty and imagination in "Wilson." . . . It is a fascinating chronicle of an epoch. . . . Fine acting, shrewd direction and an over-all sincerity mark this motion picture as a vastly entertaining show, as well as a lesson in good citizenship. . . . There is very little attempt to implement the show as a propagandistic tract for the present day.

DAILY MIRROR, *Lee Mortimer*—I came away convinced I had seen one of the most amazing achievements of film making in the history of the cinema. . . . It is magnificently simple. . . . It will entertain theatre-goers.

NEW YORK TIMES, *Bosley Crowther*—Producer Darryl F. Zanuck and Twentieth Century-Fox have managed a commanding screen biography of Woodrow Wilson . . . they have imaged the salient nature of the leader to a remarkable degree, and they have pictured the man against his period with uncommon dignity and good taste. . . . It would be hard to beat this glowing film. . . . The design of the whole production amply indicates taste and expense. Much of the film's exceptional quality is due to the performance of Alexander Knox in the title role.

PM, *John T. McManus*—. . . is without question the most important motion picture of its time. Underlying this distinctly courageous and precedential kind of movie-making is the also-important fact that "Wilson" is a remarkably fine film purely as a cinema production. Its two hours and a half are absorbed with humor, characteristic American family life; with tenderness, loyalty and sincerity brimming over in its characterizations, and even with love, a football game and dashes of song and dance thrown in for honest measure.

DAILY NEWS, *Kate Cameron*. Four Stars. . . . every American who can should see it. It is a beautiful production in Technicolor, superbly acted by a large cast . . . it is all so well projected that the film doesn't seem too long. . . . In pointing up the analogies between that era and this, the present Administration is no more favored than the party opposed to it. . . . Darryl Zanuck is to be congratulated for sponsoring one of the finest films ever produced in Hollywood.

SUN, *Charles A. Wyer*— . . . offers close to three hours of memories, some happy, some sad. For younger moviegoers it provides superb entertainment and brings to life what must forever remain one of the most important periods in this nation's history. . . . One of the most carefully directed pictures of this or any other year. It is one of the most handsomely staged and costumed . . . an honest effort and a great one.

JOURNAL-AMERICAN, *Rose Pelswick*— . . . picture making at its best . . . has brilliance of production, cast, sets and other technical details, but, chiefly, it has a story that compels attention from the first moment to the last . . . a theme that could have been highly controversial has been handled with both skill and good taste. It does not take sides and it does not editorialize. It presents facts. . . .

WORLD-TELEGRAM, *Alton Cook*—Everything in the picture is on a large scale; stars playing many of the myriad bit roles, settings and crowds of huge proportions and a long and varied lot of backgrounds. Technicolor results never have been more consistently satisfactory than in "Wilson." . . . No matter what Zanuck had in mind in a Presidential election year, the effect is a strong flavor of propaganda and politics—with the Republican Senator Lodge the villain in this parallel drama of a quarter century ago.

NEW YORK POST, *Archer Winsten*—As entertainment, "Wilson," . . . settles down massively into the worthwhile category. It does not, . . . mark "a point of departure in the development of the motion picture medium" . . . it further exaggerates the current Hollywood mania for overwhelming production values . . . has an indirect bearing on the forthcoming elections. . . . Those who have feared this picture as potent fourth-term propaganda need no longer agitate themselves.

Chapman Appointed To 'Classics' Branch

Jules Chapman, manager of Film Classics' New York exchange, has been named supervisor of branch operations and will make his headquarters at the home office. Chapman was formerly connected with Monogram and First Divisional Exchanges in a similar capacity. Sidney Weiner of the Warner theatre department will replace Chapman at the local exchange.

'Jasper' Pre-Release

The Paramount short, "Jasper's Paradise," in the George Pal Puppetoon series, has been given a pre-release booking by the Hollywood Paramount Theatre to play with Paramount's "Going My Way" Aug. 16.

Basil Home Burns

BUFFALO, Aug. 2.—Fire recently destroyed the roof and attic of the home of Theophilos J. Basil, vice-president of Basil Brothers Theatres here. Damages were estimated at $1,000.

New Producer in PRC Expansion

(*Continued from page* 1)

cited 9,000 for the domestic objective next season. Two district managers already functioning are being augmented by three more shortly, their primary objective to aid exchanges.

PRC plans to spend $103,000 on its annual trade budget, this being basic and subject to increases on specials. The overall budget next season, covering all phases of activity and not production alone is $7,385,000. Fromkess added the company is also branching into its own foreign distribution and has its own unit in Cuba and another covering the entire West Coast of South America. Impending is a deal for production of four features in Mexico City for Latin American distribution. Indicating no additional exhibition plans, Fromkess, however, cited seven Ohio and Colorado houses now controlled by PRC through realty holdings.

'Wing' Gets $14,000 In Providence

PROVIDENCE, Aug. 2.—"Wing and a Prayer" grossed approximately $14,000 in its first week at the Majestic Theatre and will be held over. The re-issued "Holiday Inn" did $7,300 at Fay's Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Days of Glory" (RKO)
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,800).

"You Can't Ration Love" (Para.)
"The Navy Way" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,500).

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $17,700).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,100).

"Holiday Inn" (Para.)
"Lady Has Plans" (Para.)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $6,500).

"Stagecoach" (UA)
"Brother Rat" (WB)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $4,000).

Rogers' Illness May Defer Schine Trial

(*Continued from page* 1)

in that city, in connection with the case. Transcriptions of the testimony will be sent to the U. S. District Court in Buffalo.

Wright has already been advised of Rogers' illness and, it is believed, would not stand in the way of a postponement of the case on this ground.

Renovating Strand, Regent in Wildwood

WILDWOOD, N. J., Aug. 2.—The Regent and Strand Theatres here, operated by Hunt's Enterprises, will be remodeled, enlarged and equipped for television beginning in the Fall, it was reported at the weekend by William C. Hunt, president. Both houses will be air conditioned and projection equipment will be installed.

. . . A Swell Job, Tom!



..Thanks to 20th Century-Fox, The March of Time now has its largest audience ever . . . a peak number of theatres . . . is still climbing!

THE MARCH OF TIME
20th CENTURY FOX
PRODUCED BY THE EDITORS OF TIME AND LIFE

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
July 8	LOUISIANA HAYRIDE Judy Canova Ross Hunter C—(5019)	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)	JOHNNY DOESN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE Simone Simon James Ellison D—79 mins. (304)	(Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)		CALL OF THE ROCKIES Smiley Burnette Sonny Carson O—56 mins. (356)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.		SUMMER STORM George Sanders Linda Darnell D—107 mins.	TRIGGER TRAIL O—(8086) JUNGLE WOMAN Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins. (8018) THE MUMMY'S GHOST Lon Chaney D—61 mins. (8039)	(Re-issues) MANPOWER 103 mins. (341) TIGER SHARK 79 mins. (345) THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL 92 mins. (342) THE WALKING DEAD 66 mins. (344) BROTHER RAT 89 mins. (343) POLO JOE 65 mins. (346)
July 15	SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5008)	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427) TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)	ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot D—73 mins. (305) THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C—67 mins. (323)	DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325) THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323) HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322) GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—60 mins. 416) BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Dave O'Brien O—61 mins. (458) MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George D—69 mins. (404) SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH Chick Chandler June Clyde D—60 mins. (417) DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN (reissue) Gene Autry O—(3305) SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane O—55 mins. (461) SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD D—68 mins. (321) 3 LITTLE SISTERS Ruth Terry Mary Lee Cheryl Walker D—69 mins. (325) SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (399) BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45) GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322) PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324) SING, NEIGHBOR, SING! Brad Taylor M—70 mins. (401) (1944-'45) SAN ANTONIO KID O—56 mins. (3313) (1944-'45)	(Sixth Block) GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426) MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427) A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428) STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429) YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	(July Releases—no definite date set) ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431) HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color) CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe C—80 mins.	TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin M—62 mins. (8045) ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	(Regular Release) ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
July 22	U BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett D-65 mins. SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter D										
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5007)		WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)								
Aug. 5		(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)		(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326) TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327) THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330) HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328) I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)								
Aug. 12	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D	(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color) CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	MARKED TRAILS Hoot Gibson O—59 mins. (366) CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333) LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O				(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461) SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases) TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins.	(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087) IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C	MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 19	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C										
Aug. 26	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O						(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins.			
Sept. 2	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (1944-'45)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)						GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45)	JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C		BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)		WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45)				MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—(1944-'45)	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—(402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)		BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)		GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(551) (1944-'45)					THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—(1944-'45)	

(Dates Are Based on National Release

$75,217 for 'Skeffington' At 4 in L.A.

Los Angeles, Aug. 2.—"Mr. Skeffington" got the lion's share of the grosses this week, taking $75,217 at Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern, which average $50,900. "Gaslight" continued strong in its second week in FWC's Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz combination, getting $57,500 where $33,100 is par. Weather was perfect.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 2:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS (HOLLYWOOD) — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,785. (Average: $17,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS (DOWNTOWN) — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,288. (Average: $18,700).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN)—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,144. (Average: $15,200).

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
CARTHAY CIRCLE — (1,516) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $11,200).

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500).

"Gaslight" (MGM)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500).

"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,200).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700.

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,100).

"Gaslight" (MGM)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,900).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,700).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,300).

"Gaslight" (MGM)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $8,700).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $10,500).

J. Marks, 82, Dies

Toronto, Aug. 2.—Joseph E. Marks, 82, pioneer theatre man in Canada, died recently in Perth, Ont., after a lingering illness. Marks was one of seven brothers, only one of which survives, who were active in the early years of the industry. He leaves his brother, Ernest, owner of the Marks Theatre in Oshawa, Ont., and mayor of that community.

Curtis to Do 'Lamb'

Nathaniel Curtis has been signed by William Cagney to write the screen play for "The Stray Lamb." Curtis will not go to Hollywood but will work on the script here, due to commitments on Billy Rose's "Seven Lively Arts," scheduled to go into production in the Fall.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



STARTING TODAY, A PARAMOUNT TECHNICOLOR SHORT WILL BE PLAYED AS THE SECOND FEATURE ON THE ENTIRE NEW YORK LOEW CIRCUIT. A **"PARAMOUNT MUSICAL PARADE,"** "SHOWBOAT SERENADE", IS THE SUBJECT WHICH MAKES N.Y. BOOKING HISTORY, ACCOMPANYING THE SENSATIONAL "GOING MY WAY" AND A PARAMOUNT NOVELTOON ON AN ALL-PARAMOUNT PROGRAM WHICH WILL RUN A FULL WEEK IN 32 OF THE LOEW HOUSES, AND A SPLIT WEEK IN THE REMAINING 31.

'Way' Still Showing Way in Capital

Washington, Aug. 2.—"Going My Way" still continues to draw crowds to Loew's Palace where it should do an estimated $21,000 for the third week. Another money-maker is "Bathing Beauty," now in its second week at Loew's Capitol, where it should take a neat $24,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3 are:

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. On stage: Lionel Kaye, Leon Navarra. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,000).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (MGM)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,200).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE — (2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. On stage: Hal LeRoy. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $19,700).

"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH's—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,600).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000).

$30,000 to 'Way' in 2nd Cleveland Week

Cleveland, Aug. 2.—For the second successive week everybody appearing to be "Going My Way," with the estimated gross coming within $6,800 of the sensational first week business of $36,800 at Loew's State. Other theatres had only a fair weekend, except "Ladies in Washington," coupled with "Horace Heidt" which opened big presaging a $28,000 week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Show Business" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,500).

"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200.

"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Horace Heidt Band. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Hour Before the Dawn" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).

Workers See 'Romance'

Chicago, Aug. 2.—Five invitation screenings of M-G-M's "An American Romance" have been set for workers in the steel industry, it has been reported by J. E. Flynn, Western sales manager. The showings will be held tomorrow in Milwaukee, Duluth, Indianapolis and Detroit. Brian Donlevy, star of the film, will appear in person.

Sourkes to Monogram

Toronto, Aug. 2.—Irving Sourkes has been named manager of the Montreal branch of Monogram Pictures of Canada, it was reported by general manager Harry Kauffman. Sourkes, in the industry here many years, succeeds I. H. Allen, recently named general manager of Esquire Films, Ltd.

As this paper goes to press, every New York newspaper— every trade paper—every exhibitor who saw it . . . and the record-breaking opening hours at the Roxy prove the statement:

"Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

is the most important event in 50 years of box-office entertainment!"

Released by 20th Century-Fox • Directed by HENRY KING • Written by LAMAR TROTTI

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 24 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Tax Payments Since 1941 Are Up 677%

$108,484,189 Paid by 3 Companies in '43

U. S. Federal income and excess profits taxes paid by the industry have increased 677 percent since before the war, according to an analysis of eight film companies' financial statements for the last full year reported. The levies against Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, Warners and Consolidated Film Industries, which controls Republic, totaled $108,484,189 during their fiscal year ended in 1943 or early 1944, whereas the amount set aside for the Government in 1941 or early 1942 was $13,941,396.

In the final year before Pearl Harbor, approximately 13 percent of the $108,464,539 operating income of these companies went for Federal income and excess profits taxes, compared with 53 percent of their $202,970,774

(*Continued on page 8*)

OWI-WAC Heads Set Postwar Themes

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—Among the subjects which it is proposed to cover in the next series of Office of War Information-War Activities Committee films, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned today, are the following:

The handling of postwar food surpluses; treatment of wounded service men returned to the U. S.; the interdependence of the United States and South American countries; the State Department's record to date; the Red Cross home nursing program and Army transport subjects.

Stanton Griffis, OWI films head; Francis Harmon, WAC head, and their associates will meet here tomorrow with representatives of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization on writers'

(*Continued on page 3*)

Freon Cools Diners, Theatres Close: Wilby

Although infrequently used restaurants and auditoriums are able to obtain sufficient Freon to remain open through the summer, film houses, excluded from the War Production Board's order regarding the refrigerant gas, are forced to close, according to Robert B. Wilby, vice-president of the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Rank, Korda Named For Producers on BOT Films Council

LONDON, Aug. 3.—J. Arthur Rank and Sir Alexander Korda today were named producers' representtaives on the Board of Trade films council, of which the full new personnel was announced here. The appointment is regarded as a repudiation by BOT chairman Hugh Dalton of recent monopoly committee recommendations that the British industry concentrate on medium-priced production. Rank and Korda are exponents of lavish films comparable to those of Hollywood.

The council, of which Lord Drogheda was named chairman, contains, as new independents' representatives, Professor Ivor Evans, Mrs. Mary Ag-

(*Continued on page 3*)

U. S. Films to Lead In Brazil: Baez

Although the Mexican and Argentine film industries are trying to penetrate the Brazilian market, American product will continue to predominate, Enrique Baez, United Artists' Brazilian manager, declared in an interview at the home office here yesterday.

Baez revealed that grosses have increased, especially in the larger cities, although admissions have remained the same. The state admission tax in Rio de Janeiro has gone up to 20 per

(*Continued on page 3*)

Boston Goes on a Terror Film Diet

Boston, Aug. 3. — Terror pictures and sensational films are again having their innings in Boston and currently are pulling heavily at the box office. There seems to be a distinct tendency on the part of a large segment of the theatre public here to want these picture types in preference to either the so-called Pollyanna type or war pictures, which are definitely not registering in the Hub at this time.

Decree Move Up Next Week

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Department of Justice officials concerned with the consent decree will get together next week for a discussion of the next steps to be taken in the light of Attorney General Francis Biddle's rejection of distributor proposals and his suggestion that a further effort be made to secure revisions which he outlined as prerequisite to government acceptance, it was learned today.

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, who returned to Washington this week, has been unable to go into the situation because of the absence of Robert L. Wright, chief of the film unit, who, with Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, head of the anti-trust division, is working with him on the matter. Wright is expect-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Pairing of Similar Themes on Dual Bills a Hit at B. & K. 'A' Houses

Chicago, Aug. 3. — The Balaban and Katz circuit here has been experimenting with two pictures of the same type playing its class 'A' neighborhood houses and the results, according to reports, are profitable. Departing from the customary procedure of emphasizing variety in the programs, the booking department, headed by Harry Lustgarten, has purposely paired similar pictures where release schedules permitted.

The experiment was started early this month with "Address Unknown" and "Passage to Marseille" and continued with the pairings of "Tampico" and "Buffalo Bill," action features, "Song of Russia" and "Yellow Canary," war theme pictures, and "Bridge of San Luis Rey" and "The Impostor," a pair of 'heavies.' In each case, the box offices registered capacity week-ends and bright week night business. B. and K. officials believe that a patron who dislikes war pictures or action pictures will stay away from the theater regardless of whether the program has one or two of those pictures he does not favor. At the same time, it is held, patrons who want those pictures will flock to see them because two instead of one are on the bill.

B. and K. plans to continue with these programs, release dates permitting.

Parts Seen as Bottleneck On Projectors

Relaxation Orders Not Extended to Materials

Although the War Production Board has scheduled relaxation of its restrictions on the production of projection equipment for Aug. 15, production of such equipment will not proceed at the pace expected because the supply of component parts of projectors is still heavily restricted, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today.

This was indicated by Allen G. Smith, chief of WPB's theatre section, who, in a letter to the Theatre Equipment Dealers' Protective Association in Chicago, has pointed out a bottleneck blocking the resumption of full manufacture of projectors. According to Smith, many of the critical parts are not produced by projector manufacturers, but are dependent on producers of ball bearings, small motors and electronic components. These

(*Continued on page 8*)

WPB Curtails Photo Chemical Supplies

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3. — The short supply situation in photographic chemicals was emphasized today in orders of the War Production Board putting four types under allocation, effective Sept. 1.

The chemicals involved are sodium ferrocyanide, potassium ferrocyanide, potassium ferricyanide, potassium and sodium ferricyanide. For the last two months they have been controlled by directive which, however, has not adequately met the situation.

A small-order exemption is provided for 720 pounds of sodium ferrocyanide, 370 pounds of potassium sodium ferricyanide, and 100 pounds of the other two chemicals.

Katcher In Vanguard East Publicity Post

Leo Katcher, who has been with United Artists for the past three months on a publicity assignment in connection with "Since You Went Away," has joined Vanguard Films as head of East Coast publicity. He was formerly on the staff of the *New York Post* and *PM* and more recently has seen service in the Army.

Fifth Loan Reports Lag: O'Donnell Says

R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the Industry's Fifth War Loan drive, yesterday expressed hope for a marked increase in receipt of theatre reports within the next few days. O'Donnell said: "It is apparent the showmen of America will go 'all out' in their personal efforts but once the work is done they are content to let someone else wear the cap of achievement. The Treasury has saluted our effort, now, we have to solidify the salute with statistical reports or the industry's effort is apt to go unsung. Let's go Showmen!"

Film Classics' Meet Set for Chicago

Film Classics, which has 28 cooperative exchanges in all key cities, except Memphis, Albany and Butte, will hold a national sales meeting in Chicago in October, at which time it will offer its reissued product and also outline plans for a production program.

George Hirliman, president, is setting up a sales organization which will parallel that of a major distributor and will consist, when completed, of division and district managers, contract and clerical departments, and an advertising, publicity, art and pressbook department.

A number of appointments have been made in recent weeks, including that of L. E. Godhammer as vice-president and general sales manager; Jules Chapman as supervisor of branch operations, and Sidney Weinberg in charge of the New York exchange.

Production program of Film Classics calls for a minimum of 16 features and some Westerns. Reissues available to its exhibitor members, who control about 1,500 theatres, include 31 Goldwyn films, 11 Hal Roach Streamliner features, seven Selznick features, 36 Gaumont-British films, seven from other producers and 400 Roach shorts.

'Wilson' Maintains Fast Pace at Roxy

After ending its first full day, Wednesday, at the Roxy with a gross of approximately $22,000, Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" maintained the same record-threatening pace yesterday. On the basis of receipts up to six p.m. yesterday the company estimated that the gross for the second day would be slightly above Wednesday's.

'U-Boat' N. Y. Opening

Columbia's "U-Boat Prisoner," starring Bruce Bennett and Erik Rolf, will have its New York opening at the Brooklyn Strand next Thursday.

Personal Mention

DAVID O. SLEZNICK, who was expected in New York from the Coast yesterday, instead went directly to Maryland for a vacation.

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HERMAN RIPPS, Albany M-G-M manager, and RALPH MAW, Buffalo manager, are due in New York Monday. W. E. BANFORD, Chicago branch manager, and W. R. WORKMAN, Minneapolis manager, leave for their respective headquarters Saturday.

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MR. and MRS. JOHN WILDBERG will be in Beverly Hills from Aug. 9 to 19 as guests of CARL LAEMMLE, JR. WILDBERG is co-producer of "One Touch of Venus."

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JACK LEVEL, editor of the RKO Radio Pictures' house organ "Flash," goes on vacation next Monday. ARTHUR BRILANT will edit during LEVEL's absence.

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MILDRED GERBER, head inspector of the M-G-M branch in Kansas City, is in town visiting relatives during her vacation.

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SAM COHEN, United Artists' foreign publicity manager, is celebrating his 12th year with that company.

•

CARTER BLAKE, Columbia Eastern casting director, leaves tomorrow for a week's vacation.

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, general manager of RKO out-of-town theatres, will leave today for a tour of Western theatres. He will be accompanied by MRS. SCHWARTZ and his son LEONARD.

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WILLIAM G. BRENNER, in charge of M-G-M exchange maintenance; ROSE KLEIN, assistant to ALAN F. CUMMINGS, in charge of branch operations; and ARTHUR STERLING, field auditor, have returned from Boston.

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MONTAGUE SALMON, managing director of the Rivoli, will leave for a vacation on Sunday, returning in time for next month's premiere of "Frenchman's Creek" at his film emporium.

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CHARLES REED JONES, advertising director for Republic, will leave today for the company's North Hollywood studios. He will be gone about a month.

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MARY RYAN, Buffalo M-G-M office manager, arrived in New York yesterday for home office conferences.

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MRS. ESTHER BLENDMAN, assistant cashier for M-G-M in Washington, is vacationing here with her husband.

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DAVID PALFREYMAN of the MPPDA will leave tonight for a vacation at Angola, Ind.

Skouras, Zanuck At 20th-Fox Meet

Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors, Darryl Zanuck, W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, A. W. Smith, Jr., L. J. Schlaifer, Hal Horne and Charles Schlaifer addressed the 20th Century-Fox district and branch managers yesterday, who are in New York for sales meetings on Darryl Zanuck's Technicolor "Wilson." A further meeting of the branch and district managers will be held at the Hotel Astor today.

The 20th Century-Fox sales representatives attended a cocktail party given by Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, at the Rose Room of the Astor following the meeting. Among those who attended the party were John C. O'Connor, Charles Schlaifer, Phil Williams, R. J. O'Donnell, Henry King, Maurice Silverstone, Felix Jenkins, Sidney Samson and Sam Shain.

Following the cocktail party Connors was guest of honor at a dinner given by 20th-Fox branch and division managers. Harry C. Vallance, Southern district manager, presented him with a scroll.

Study USSR Films

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—Rodolpho Usigli has been assigned by the Mexican government to study Russian methods of film production.

Farewell Luncheon For Herk McIntyre

Joseph H. Seidelman, Universal vice-president and foreign manager, will be host at a luncheon at 21 Club today for Herk McIntyre, the company's veteran managing director for Australia and New Zealand. McIntyre is scheduled to leave for the Coast early next week en route to Australia, following a home office visit.

Among those scheduled to be present at the farewell luncheon are: Charles D. Prutzman, J. J. O'Connor, W. A. Scully, Budd Rogers, Sam Machnovitch, Maurice Bergman, Charles Kirby, Al Daff, Adolph Schimel, E. T. Gomersall, Tom Mead, F. J. A. McCarthy, Eugene Walsh, Fred Meyers, E. L. McEvoy, A. J. O'Keefe, James Jordan, Tom Murray, J. Murphy, Hank Linet, Al Horwits, S. Jacobs, Morris Alin and Fortunat Baronat.

Court to Review Moss Ban on Delivery Fee

Justice Bernard Botein has denied a motion in Supreme Court here to dismiss a suit brought by the McBride Theatre Ticket Offices seeking court determination of license commissioner Paul Moss' power to ban theatre ticket delivery charges.

The judge, while ruling against the motion to dismiss, said: "Delivery charges are not necessarily in violation of section 169-C of the general business law."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 3

MALCOLM KINGSBERG RKO vice-president and treasurer, arrived here today from New York for a visit of several weeks. Charles W. Koerner, studio head, and Perry Lieber also have returned from the company's New York sales convention.

•

Alfred Zeisler, director of Monogram's-W. R. Frank feature, "Enemy of Women," will speak before the Los Angeles Breakfast Club Aug. 9 on the present situation in the Reich. The talk will be re-broadcast over KFWB the same evening.

•

Shooting schedule on "Pillar to Post" at the Warner Bros. studio has been held up to permit Ida Lupino to recover from a minor injury.

•

Monogram signed a contract with Cinema Mercantile Co. to supply the studio with all props and set dressings for the coming year.

•

John Leroy Johnston will leave by plane Saturday for New York to work on the "Casanova Brown" campaign.

•

Hugh Owen, Vanguard sales manager, is enroute East.

Wallis Arrives Here For Balaban Talks

Hal Wallis, head of Hal Wallis Productions, Paramount independent producing unit, arrived in New York yesterday for conference with Barney Balaban, Paramount president, on his contemplated production of films in Great Britain.

Wallis indicated that studio space will be rented in London for his productions, presumably from J. Arthur Rank. His conferences with Balaban will get under way early next week. Wallis expects to be here 10 days.

Villiers Coming to U. S. for Ealing

LONDON, Aug. 3.—Reginald Baker, president of the Kinematograph Renters Society and managing director of Ealing Studios, cannot make his scheduled American visit and will send as his envoy Sir Edward Villiers to initiate the U. S. sale of Ealing's latest product. Villiers served in the Indian government before the war and has since been with the Ministry of Information's films division.

Bornemann Seeks Papers

TORONTO, Aug. 3. — Ernst Wilhelm Julius Bornemann, producer with the National Film Board of Canada since 1940, has applied to Canadian authorities for naturalization. Bornemann is a native of Germany.

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Rank, Korda Named For Producers on BOT Films Council

(*Continued from page* 1)

ies Hamilton, Creech Jones, M.P.; William Quin, and Sir Geoffrey Shakespeare, M.P. These people belong to forward-looking sections of the various political parties, and their appointment betokens Dalton's determination to make the council a more expressive cross-section of the whole nation's life. Other independents named are Lady Apsley, M.P.; Sir William Citrine, Albert Palache and Professor Arnold Plant.

Appointed as distributors' representatives are Major Reginald Baker and Joseph Friedman, Columbia's European supervisor. Exhibitor appointees are R. J. Hinge, Commander Arthur Jarratt, Sir Alexander King and C. P. Metcalfe. Renamed as employes' representatives are T. O'Brien and G. H. Elvin.

The general view here is that the council will now be better qualified to appreciate the entire set-up of the industry, and the appointment of Hinge will be regarded by exhibitors as a well-earned tribute to a noteworthy worker in their cause. The new council's first meeting will be held Aug. 21.

U. S. Films to Lead In Brazil: Baez

(*Continued from page* 1)

cent, but exhibitors have not dared to raise their admissions because there has been agitation against the existing price scale. A new law is pending in Brazil, Baez said, which has as its goal the strengthening of the native industry. Native producers have complained that their other features languish or are sold at very low prices, he said.

Victor J. Schochet, the company's manager in Peru, also present, stated that although Peruvian first-run houses plan 90 percent American product and only 10 percent Spanish films, the situation was reversed in the country at large where Spanish pictures secured 60 percent of the playing time compared to 40 percent American films. Mexican films occupied 65 percent of subsequent playing time with Argentine product filling in the balance.

Both managers said that 16mm. films shown by the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs were helping to expand their commercial audience in both countries. Schochet estimated the monthly audience seeing CIAA films numbered 150,000 in Peru alone.

Decree Move Up Next Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

ed to return to the Capital next Monday, and it is probable the three officials will meet early in the week to go over the situation. Pending such a conference, it was said, no steps would be taken to lay the matter before the distributors, with whom it is understood Clark has not been in contact this week.

One of the points to be determined is whether the companies shall be informed of the situation and given an outline of the desired changes by mail or asked to meet with Clark for a personal discussion of what might be the final effort to come to an agreement. It is believed that Department officials are still hopeful of perfecting a consent decree which will save both the government and the companies the time and money that would be expended in litigation and that every opportunity will be accorded the distributors to meet the Department's requirements or offer convincing proof that they are inequitable.

Col. Broadcasting Declares Dividend

The board of directors of the Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc., declared a cash dividend of 40 cents on the Class A and B stock payable on Sept. 1 to holders of record Aug. 18.

Earnings per share for six months ended July 1 this year were $1.34 vs. $1.28 for the comparable period in 1943. Net income for six months amounted to $2,295,865 vs. $2,204,499 in the same period last year. Gross income from the sale of facilities, talent, lines, records, etc., were $42,627,666 in the six-month period in 1944 vs. $35,288,315 in 1943. Time discount and agency commissions, record returns, allowances and discounts amounted to $13,465,173 in six months ended July 1 of this year compared with $10,687,815 in 1943.

Curtail Horror Films In New South Wales

Horror films and their trailers have been banned from children's matinees in New South Wales under an agreement between exhibitors and the state government, according to a Melbourne dispatch released here by the Australian News and Information Bureau.

The agreement was reached after the State Films Commission held a probe and drew up a number of recommendations that could not have been implemented without special state and federal legislation. Under its terms, exhibitors are obliged to state clearly in advertising whether pictures are suitable for adults only or for general audiences.

Groton Clearance Case Dismissed

The clearance complaint filed in the New Haven tribunal by Miriam W. Hess, operator of the Groton Theatre, Groton, Conn., against the five consenting companies, has been dismissed by arbitrator A. A. Ribicoff, the American Arbitration Association announced here yesterday.

Occupation Troops Will See Films

The 16 mm. film service operated by the Overseas Motion Picture Service branch of the Army Pictorial Service for U. S. troops overseas will be continued after the war for the troops of occupation, Joseph H. Seidelman, Universal foreign sales vice-president, and civilian consultant to the War Department on overseas film distribution, has informed MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Seidelman said he anticipated no trouble in continuing Universal's foreign operations as far as personnel was concerned. Observing that his was "the easiest business in the world to revitalize," Seidelman said that once product is ready it would be relatively easy to man the territory. When the Army got into Rome, he said, the company got 16 cables from people there asking to represent Universal.

Universal's foreign sales head said that no theatres were operated by the company in Europe, the two it owned in Germany having been confiscated by the Nazi government.

SEP Cites Gift of 16mm Films to Army

The fact that the motion picture theatres of the United States are participating in the film industry's gift of 16 mm prints of the latest features to the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service for showing to our troops overseas is widely publicized for the first time in the advertising and promotion tie-up made between the War Activities Committee and the *Saturday Evening Post*.

A special poster prepared by the *Saturday Evening Post* to publicize the story, "Tonight at the Beachhead Bijou," by Peter Martin, which deals with the overseas showings, bears the legend, "Pictures seen in this theatre are shown in all war zones as a gift of the American motion picture industry." In a special letter sent to all WAC exhibitor chairmen, Si Fabian has called upon them to cooperate in seeing that the posters receive prominence in the theatres in their territories. The SEP is devoting its Blue Network program, "Listening Post," of Aug. 12 to promote the story and the industry's gift and will all feature the information in its national advertising of the issue of Aug. 12 in which the story appears.

Freon Cools Diners, Theatres Close: Wilby

(*Continued from page* 1)

Wilby-Kincey circuit, who is in New York this week.

W-K's Palmetto Theatre, serving many soldiers from training camps in the Spartanburg, S. C., area, was forced to suspend operations for the summer, due to the Freon shortage and restrictions prohibiting installation of fans.

OWI-WAC Heads Set Postwar Themes

(*Continued from page* 1)

assignments and selection of topics. The discussions follow Griffis' disclosure last week that the OWI is inviting suggestions from Hollywood on how to undertake to deal with postwar problems.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Extra! SEE DEMOCRACY AT WORK!
AMERICANS ALL
THE NEW
MARCH OF TIME
A 20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE

5TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

A whole new world opened at Tuesday night's world premiere!
Darryl F. Zanuck's
WILSON
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by HENRY KING
Written for the Screen by
LAMAR TROTTI
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
Rise Stevens
IN PARAMOUNT'S
'GOING MY WAY'
IN PERSON
HI, LO, JACK and the DAME
MILT HERTH TRIO

"And The Angels Sing"
IN PERSON
Perry Como-Jerry Wald
Singing Sensation of 1944
His Clarinet and Orchestra
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
In Technicolor
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.


Step Lively
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
GLORIA DE HAVEN
ADOLPHE MENJOU
WALTER SLEZAK
EUGENE PALLETTE
Step Lively
WITH
WALLY BROWN · ALAN CARNEY · GRANT MITCHELL · ANNE JEFFREYS
Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS · Directed by TIM WHELAN
Screen Play by Warren Duff and Peter Milne
RKO RADIO PICTURES
LOCAL PLUGS FOR LOCAL RKO SHOWS
... on RKO's great radio program ... daily over 177 stations of the Blue Network. Coast to Coast.
HOLLYWOOD STAR TIME
12:15 P. M. daily
Monday through Friday
Pacific Coast time

WITH THE NEW YORK CRITICS!



Step Lively with **Wanda Hale, N. Y. Daily News:**

"A smart combination of music and screwy comedy. What more could you ask?"

Step Lively with **Lee Mortimer, N. Y. Daily Mirror:**

"Fulltime, bigtime entertainment."

Step Lively with **Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times:**

"A show for those who want mere pleasure or for those who succumb to 'The Voice' ".

Step Lively with **Howard Barnes, N. Y. Herald-Tribune:**

"A helter-skelter film musical, endowed with an excellent supporting company, fetching songs and bits of comic nonsense."

Step Lively with **Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun:**

"Lives up to its title . . . A fast and scrambled farce broken up with song and dance."

Step Lively with **Rose Pelswick, N. Y. Journal-American:**

"Gay and tuneful entertainment—fast-moving comedy with songs and dances."

Step Lively with **Archer Winsten, N. Y. Post:**

" 'The Voice' is here to stay . . . Movie version of hectic Broadway hit no shrinking violet . . . slap-happy farce . . . surefire."

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

RECORD OPENING DAY AT THE ROXY SUBSTANTIATES GREATEST REVIEWS IN 50 YEARS OF BOX-OFFICE ENTERTAINMENT FOR DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR

Released by 20th Century-Fox • Directed by HENRY KING • Written by LAMAR TROTTI

"It will mop up at the box-office!" *—Variety*

"How can it miss recording grosses of stratospheric levels?" *—Boxoffice*

"The finest picture ever made!" *—The Independent*

"'Wilson' is an achievement!" *—The Exhibitor*

"Entertainment in every foot and frame!" *—Film Daily*

"Ranks high among screen's most ambitious undertakings!" *—Motion Picture Daily*

"Certain to draw huge crowds throughout the land!" *—Showmen's Trade Review*

"Crowded with entertainment from start to finish!" *—Walter Winchell*

How Tax Payments Jumped Since Before the War

Company	1943 Gross Income	1943 Operating Income	1943 Federal Taxes	1943 Net Income	1941 Gross Income	1941 Operating Income	1941 Federal Taxes	1941 Net Income
Columbia	$32,423,487	$5,423,788	$3,570,000	$1,802,280	$21,648,691	$728,634	$145,420	$552,744
Cons. Film Indus.*	9,256,337	1,535,727	585.000	578,338	6,256,355	923,287	230,000	513,451
Loew's, Inc.	157,236,944	35,691,606	21,239,870	13,422,853	128,409,880	18,226,674	3,747,298	11,134,593
Paramount	145,237,856	50,521,092	28,283,452	14,584,821	104,459,727	18,961,584	3,744,725	9,206,042
RKO	78,795,320	13,015,420	7,015,420	6,964,004	53,250,726	3,325,718	466,603	538,693
20th Century-Fox	159,809,994	38,100,000	23,800,000	12,900,000	48,760,291	37,101,110	2,275,162	4,921,926
Universal	46,527,527	25,791,389	10,100,447	3,759,963	30,283,523	13,650,570	1,726,188	2,673,249
Warner Bros.	131,825,540	32,891,752	13,890,000	8,238,483	102,293,171	15,546,962	1,606,000	5,429,303
Totals	$761,113,005	$202,970,774	$108,484,189	$62,250,742	$495,362,364	$108,464,539	$13,941,396	$34,970,001

* Controls Republic.

Tax Payments Since 1941 Are Up 677%

(Continued from page 1)

operating income last year. This represents corporate levies only and does not include the numerous other local, state and Federal non-income taxes.

However, despite the increased tax payments needed to help carry on the war, the proportion of operating income remaining as net profit slipped only slightly: from 32 percent in 1941 to 31 percent in 1943. This was made possible, of course, by the war boom at the box offices, which increased gross revenues by 54 percent, from $495,362,364 to $761,113,005, and boosted operating incomes by 87 percent and net profits by 78 percent, the latter from $34,970,001 to $62,250,742.

The total tax increase amounted to $94,542,793. Paramount's payments between 1941 and 1943 jumped from $3,744,725 to $28,283,452, an increase of $24,538,727; 20th Century-Fox's, from $2,275,162 to $23,800,000, an increase of $21,524,838; Loew's, from $3,747,298 to $21,239,870, an increase of $17,492,572; Warners, from $1,606,000 to $13,890,000, an increase of $12,284,000; Universal's, from $1,726,188 to $10,100,447, an increase of $8,374,259; RKO's, from $466,603 to $7,015,420, an increase of $6,548,817; Columbia's, from $145,420 to $3,570,000, an increase of $3,424,580; and Consolidated's, from $230,000 to $585,000, an increase of $355,000.

ABP Dividend

LONDON, Aug. 3.—Associated British Picture Corp. has recommended a final ordinary stock dividend of seven-and-a-half percent, plus a two-end-a-half percent bonus, bringing the total for the year ended March 31 to 17½ percent, including a previous interim dividend. This is identical with the previous year.

FOR SALE—Complete motion picture laboratory including Kleig lamps, continuous Bell & Howell printers, cameras, etc. All 35MM. Converting facilities to 16MM. Box No. 229, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Plan Tele Network For Postwar Era

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—The General Electric Co. of Schenectady and International Business Machines Corp. have filed application with the Federal Communications Commission for permission to construct a series of experimental radio relay stations between Schenectady, New York and Washington for carrying as many as three telecast programs and other services in both directions simultaneously, making connection between urban and industrial centers.

General Electric technicians are reported to be working on equipment for the experimental work. The system is expected to be a post-war plan to set up a carrier for establishment of television networks.

320 Print Orders For WB's 'Janie'

Warner laboratories will turn out a record domestic print order of 320 for 'Janie,' first film on the company's 1944-'45 schedule, the home office has reported. The large order has been placed so as to make the film available to as many exhibitors as possible before high school and college students return to classes.

The company is also turning over a number of 16mm reels for overseas distribution to the fighting fronts. 'Janie' will have its world premiere tomorrow at the New York Strand.

Mexicans Plan Quota Agreement with U. S.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—A quota plan whereby American film companies would take on one Mexican picture spoken in English for each American production spoken in Spanish is being worked out by Salvador Carillo, secretary general of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union.

This measure is expected to offset competition for Mexican product from prospective Spanish dubbing of American films for Latin and American distribution. Carrillo's plan would also gain wider distribution of Mexican product in the United States.

Decoration for Karlton

Harold Karlton, formerly in charge of print control at National Screen's Philadelphia exchange and now an Army ace, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. He has executed 46 missions successfully.

Parts Curbing Projectors

(Continued from page 1)

manufacturers are limited in their civilian output by the requirements of the Army and Navy, said Smith, indicating that they would not be in a position to accept preference ratings for some time.

Further, in addition to the lack of available component parts, WPB officials have made clear that there would be no automatic lifting of limitation and conservation orders, but that each manufacturer must submit to individual treatment. Where material and labor were available beyond war needs, local WPB offices were expected to grant the appeal, however.

Nelson Sees No Early Projector Production

WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson announced in Washington yesterday that the output of electronic equipment during the remainder of the year must be increased by 21 per cent over that during the first six months, which seemed to definitely rule out the expansion of projector equipment production for the time being. Nelson's call was necessitated by the pleas of the War and Navy Departments for the material with which to wage the war. Back of the situation is the acute labor problem confronting the War Manpower Commission as war workers desert their jobs in an effort to secure peacetime berths. Although no increase in booth equipment is seen before the end of the year, an adequate flow of repair parts is assured.

MGM Policy Only For Sub-Subsequents

In reporting details of M-G-M's new policies of affording relief to theatre situations which warrant it, MOTION PICTURE DAILY on July 28 neglected to state that only those theatres which the company describes as "sub-subsequent runs" are eligible to the relief offered.

In announcing the new policies, W. F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and distribution head, said: "Our definition of this type of operation (sub-subsequent run) is a theatre following the key runs in a zone located generally within the corporate limits of a metropolitan city, not necessarily the second run in a city, but those which follow the key or first runs in individual zones."

Short Subject Review

"British Imperialism—1944"

(*March of Time-20th-Fox*)

The postwar future of Britain's empire is the subject of the current March of Time release. Delving briefly into the history of England's imperialism, MOT presents the commonwealth as a group of self-governing dominions and colonies, bound together for purposes of economic and military protection until the advent of the present global war. Then, according to the theory herein presented, Australia, New Zealand and Canada became aware of the fact that their security depended upon the U. S.—and not wholly upon England. The consequences of this newfound line of protection may imperil Britain's status as a world power. The fate of the empire rests with her leaders. Other problems presented are the Indian situation and the status of the Union of South Africa, now all but totally independent. March of Time has treated this timely and delicate subject with candor and intelligence. Well scripted and carefully directed, "British Imperialism—1944" is obviously provocative of much speculation. Running time, 18 mins., 13 seconds.

Montreal Hard Hit By Tramway Strike

MONTREAL, Aug. 3. — Workers in local film exchanges and theatres are being transported to and from their jobs in company trucks and private cars as a result of the street railway strike which started early this morning and has crippled transportation facilities throughout the city.

Box office receipts are expected to drop, especially at evening shows. Thus far there has been no indication when the strike, the third in 17 months, will terminate.

Buy Century Interests

Melville S. Rosen and George P. Quigley have purchased interests, formerly held by Edmund L. Dorfman, in Century Productions, Inc. The company's local office has reported that Century has expanded its facilities and will enter the television field with its newly organized subsidiary, Telefilm Corp.

Toronto Gives 'Eve' Strong $13,300

TORONTO, Aug. 3.—"The Story of Dr. Wassell" was pacing to a steady $10,300 for its third week at Shea's Theatre, and "Two Girls and a Sailor" indicated $9,200 at Loew's Theatre in its third week. "The Eve of St. Mrk" bowed in at the Imperial Theatre and looked like $13,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Tampico" (20th-Fox)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).
"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,200).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Tampico" (20th-Fox)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,800).

'Wassell' Is St. Louis Leader with $21,000

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 3.—"Going My Way" at the Ambassador is headed for $18,000 in its second week to set a summer holdover mark here. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at the Fox, however, is high for the week with an estimated $21,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 2:

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,900).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average $15,700).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"U Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,900).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).
"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB) (reissue)
"Manpower" (WB) (reissue)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $5,200).

'Way' Continues to Top Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 3.—In its second week, "Going My Way" at the Indiana will do $17,000 to top gross receipts here this week. "Bathing Beauty" at Loew's is second best with $15,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 1-3:

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $11,500).
"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)
"The Curse of the Cat People" (RKO)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $4,900).

Reviews

"Gypsy Wildcat"

(Universal)

AN old world melodrama, done in lavish Technicolor, with castles and treacherous moats, a wicked Count, a lost Princess and a Prince in disguise, scripted in a strange mixture of stilted and highly proper English with bits of modern colloquialism injected at strategic points, makes for an interesting and very entertaining production, apparently destined to follow in the boxoffice footsteps of its predecessors, "Cobra Woman," "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves," etc.

Maria Montez is at her loveliest as the Princess reared by the Gypsy band, and Jon Hall is most dashing as the Prince and hero. Leo Carillo handles his stint of tribal leader with competence while Gale Sondergaard struggles to pull the role of Carillo's fortune-telling wife out of the sloughs of inadequate direction. Rousing Gypsy melodies accompany the all-out production numbers in the castle courtyard. Story concerns Miss Montez, reared by Carillo among the Gypsies being held for a murder committed by Dumbrille's henchmen. Hall rides into camp, fleeing from the Castle Guard, and promptly falls in love with the beautiful Gypsy, who already has one man on her hands in the person of Peter Coe, Carillo's son. She and Hall plot to prove the Count's guilt and, after being in and out of the dungeons several times, succeed. The Gypsies are freed. Miss Montez comes into her inheritance, and she and Hall remain at the castle to rule over her domain together.

Roy William Neill directed from a screenplay by James Hogan, Gene Lewis and James M. Cain, based on an original story by Hogan and Ralph Stock. George Waggner produced.

Running time, 77 mins. "G."* Release date, Sept. 1.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"U-Boat Prisoner"

(Columbia) *Hollywood, Aug. 3*

ALTHOUGH it contains no names with marquee value and comes late in the war for stories about U-boats, this melodrama produced by Wallace MacDonald and directed by Lew Landers generates considerable tension. It's worth all its 65 minutes of running time if counted upon to entertain customers between screenings of a top attraction.

Aubrey Wisberg's screenplay, based on Archie Gibbs' book about his own experiences, places Bruce Bennett, portraying Gibbs, aboard a German submarine which is taking captured scientists to Germany. The boat is caught up with by an American destroyer and hides out on the bottom of the ocean, sending up oil, wreckage, finally the body of a German sailor, to indicate that it's been destroyed. This is the highlight in a continuing series of melodramatic incidents which end in death for the Nazis and survival for the scientists and the American.

Others in the all-male cast are Erik Rolf, John Abbott, John Wengraf, Robert Williams, Kenneth MacDonald, Erwin Kalser, Egon Brecher and many more.

Running time, 65 min. Release date July 25, 1944. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Way' Hangs Up Nice $16,100 in Omaha

OMAHA, Aug. 3.—Shattering all precedent the Orpheum Theatre took on a moveover from the Paramount in the second week of "Going My Way" and hung up a $16,100 gross to easily pace the city.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 2-3:

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
BRANDEIS—(2,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $6,500).
"Ladies Courageous" (Univ.)
"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 8 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $8,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,100. (Average: $9,800).
"Cobra Woman" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $11,700).

Fannie Hurst, Reviewer

Fannie Hurst, author, will review International's "Casanova Brown," being distributed by RKO, in the September issue of *Modern Screen*. This is Miss Hurst's first film review.

Correction

An item headed "Sues WB Ohio Theatre," which appeared in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Aug. 2, was in error in stating the plaintiff, Mrs. Emily J. Fisher, had filed suit against Warners' Ohio Theatre at Mansfield to collect a $500 bank night prize which had been refused her because she was not in the theatre at the time her name was called. The suit was filed against Steve Christ, doing business as the New Deal Bank Night Guaranty, from which the plaintiff had obtained "bank night insurance" to cover the eventuality of her winning but not being present. The Warner theatre is not involved in the suit in any way, home office officials stated.

Rites for Mary Orsatti

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3.—A requiem mass will be held Saturday morning for Mrs. Mary Orsatti, 70, who died here Tuesday night. Her husband, Morris, and five sons in the agency business—Frank, Vic, Alfred, Ernie, Jess and two daughters, survive.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Aug. 3

WHEN the medium used is words, the Government's "Good Neighbor" policy is liable to misinterpretation. But there can be no misinterpreting of music, and therefore RKO Radio's plans to use songs by leading songwriters of Brazil, Cuba and Mexico in the company's forthcoming musical, "Pan-Americana," should please not only our neighbors to the South, but American audiences as well. The composers selected for the project are Gabriel Ruiz of Mexico, whose "Amor" is tops on the Hit Parade; Ary Barroso of Brazil, whose "Brazil" and "Tico Tico" are favorites in this country, and Margarita Lecuona of Cuba, composer of the popular "Babalu."

•

Hal Wallis has purchased "Don't Ever Grieve Me," an original by Robert M. Smith. The story is a comedy drama about three returned flyers and a girl, and it is Wallis' fourth acquisition since his association with Paramount two months ago. . . . Marshall Thompson, 18-year-old college sophomore, has been signed by M-G-M for the second male lead in "Autumn Fever," with Mary Astor and Philip Dorn. . . . Leo G. Carroll returns to the screen after an absence of two and one-half years for an important role in David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . Jane Wyman has had her Warner contract extended. . . . Two endings have been filmed for "Tonight and Every Night," at Columbia. One is for use if the war in Europe has ended by the time the picture is released, the other a "protection" shot in case the conflict is still in progress.

William Juryman Dies

LONDON, Aug. 3.—Sir William Juryman, 74, governing director of Jury-Metro-Goldwyn, Ltd., from 1924 to 1927, died yesterday at Reading.

Knighted for charity work during World War I, when he did much to maintain distribution of films to the troops, Juryman was formerly president of the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund and later of the Birmingham Trade Benevolent Fund and the Scottish Trade Benevolent Fund. He was also donor of the Globelands Rest Home for the industry's veterans.

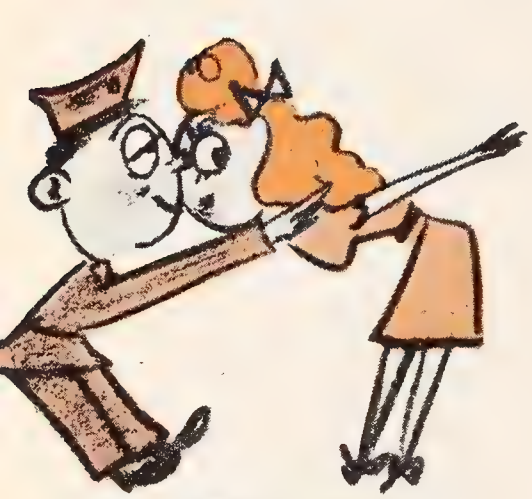
Eddie Mack Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—Eddie J. Hoffman, 65, known in vaudeville as Eddie Mack, died here Tuesday following a heart attack. Well known in the film colony, Mack had been employed as a dancing teacher here in recent years. Among his pupils were Betty Grable, Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney. The staircase dance used in motion picture productions was one of Mack's dance innovations. Surviving are his widow and a son, Paul Hoffman.

Winkler Rites Today

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3.—Private funeral services will be held tomorrow for Charles Winkler, 81, father of the late Daniel Winkler, former music publisher and artists' representative, who died yesterday after a lengthy illness.

Ok



"KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!"

with

JOYCE REYNOLDS · ROBERT HUTTON · EDWARD A

Directed by **MICHAEL CURTIZ** · Screen Play by Agnes Christine Johnston & Charles Hoffman · From th

ANNIE

Everybody's looking!

AT THE N.Y. STRAND TODAY

WARNERS WILL TOP THE PLAY!

D · ANN HARDING · ROBERT BENCHLEY · ALAN HALE

ed by Brock Pemberton · Produced by ALEX GOTTLIEB · **JACK L. WARNER,** Executive Producer



"One of my boys shot that"...

YOU are, let us say, a veteran newsreel photographer with the wartime job of training combat cameramen.

First, a little theory—but not too much. Then, the mechanics of the camera. So far it's easy. But from here on the course gets tougher. The boys have to learn that each individual "shot" must have point . . . that the picture as a whole must have continuity—must effectively "cover" the story. The first tries are apt to be terrible . . . but you and your boys keep at it . . . until finally they step out as promising cameramen.

And one day, months later, you watch a wonderful example of combat photography run off—and you're proud as Punch. You can't help singing out, "One of *my* boys shot that."

Eastman Kodak Company
Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 25 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Brandt Heads Films' Sixth Bond Drive

Independent Exhibitors To Direct Campaign

Harry Brandt, I. T. O. A. president, has been designated chairman of the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan campaign, heading a group of independent exhibitor leaders from all sections of the country, who will serve as co-chairmen in the direction of the campaign, it was announced by the War Activities Committee at the weekend.



Harry Brandt

Independent exhibitors who have been invited by the WAC to

(Continued on page 7)

WB and MPOE Start Work on New Pact

Negotiations started here at the weekend between Warner Bros. and the Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL, on a new contract to cover over 600 "white collar" workers employed in the Warner home office. MPOE's two-year contract with Warner Bros. will expire Thursday.

The union's demands for a new two-year contract include a closed shop in place of the maintenance of membership provision in the present con-

(Continued on page 6)

WAC Complete Plans For 11 OWI Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—The Hollywood division of the War Activities Committee announced completion of plans for the production of 11 OWI short subjects, five newsreel bulletins following a week of meetings attended by Stanton Griffis, Francis Har-

(Continued on page 7)

WB Limited Sales Meet on Coast To Start Aug. 14

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—Starting Aug. 14, Warners will hold a limited sales meeting of key executives, including the home office, studio, sales and theatre departments at its Burbank studio, the company announced over the weekend. As exclusively reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of July 19, which said the meeting would be held in mid-August, the company has decided to hold the skeleton meeting in view of wartime transportation stringencies.

Production activities, sales policies and other company plans for the 1944-45 season will be discussed at the meeting.

With this meeting, all companies will have held their yearly sales conventions, regionals or other substitute conferences.

PRC to Establish Paris Exchange

PRC, which was organized after the outbreak of the war in Europe and, consequently, has no foreign sales distribution except through franchise holders, plans to establish its own European sales organization as soon as possible, with Paris selected as the main exchange center, Roberto D. Socas, the company's foreign sales manager, informed MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend.

At present PRC has a reciprocal

(Continued on page 6)

Mono. Sales Meet on Aug. 12 in Chicago

Hollywood, Aug. 6.—Monogram will open a two-day national sales convention on Aug. 12, at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, at which franchise holders and exchange personnel from all U. S. territories except the Pacific Coast will attend. Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, will outline product for the 1944-45 season.

Berlin-Bornstein Dispute in Open

Film companies, music publishing and recording companies were advised at the weekend that Irving Berlin copyrights and rights to any of his future compositions are regarded as legally belonging to Irving Berlin, Inc., a partnership, despite Berlin's recent demands that the rights be discontinued.

Notification was made by means of a letter addressed to Berlin by Saul Bornstein, secretary-treasurer of Irving Berlin, Inc., which contends that the 1919 contract between the latter and Berlin holds him "fully and completely legally obligated to continue to grant to the company such rights." The letter adds that any attempt by Berlin to publish or grant rights to others will be resisted in court.

Berlin's demand that the company discontinue certain participating rights followed an extended controversy with

(Continued on page 6)

Early Action on Decree By U. S. Predicted Now

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Prompt action by the Department of Justice to force a showdown in the consent decree situation was seen in Washington at the weekend as likely, rather than any prolonged delay in disposing of the matter.

Observers here discounted suggestions that the Department might permit the negotiations to drift along until after the elections in November or until the anticipated quick end of the European war made it possible to conduct discussions in a more normal atmosphere.

In view of the fact that Attorney General Francis Biddle reportedly has been pressing the military authorities to allow him to go ahead with a number of anti-trust cases which have been held up during the war at their insistence, it was pointed out, the Department consistently could not ease its pressure on the film distributors.

Reportedly, the Department is preparing the case which it will present to the court if it decides to bring the motion picture issues to trial, with the idea of being ready to take quick action if the decree negotiations break down irrevocably, but in the meantime the door is open to the companies if

(Continued on page 6)

Raw Stock Cut 65 Million For Quarter

Companies Attempting to Meet 20% Curtailment

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

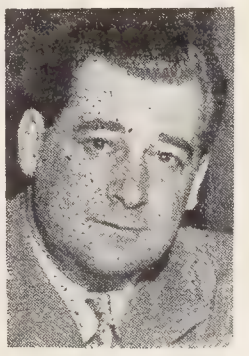
The motion picture industry will have to get along with 255,000,000 feet of raw film during the current quarter ending September 30, which represents a cut of some 65,000,000 feet from the previous quarter's allotment of 320,000,000 feet, it was learned here at the weekend.

The present situation is even more critical than it was over a week ago, when the 11 distributing companies drew up a plan which would have enabled them to cut their usage of raw stock by some 52,000,000 feet, thus making up temporarily for having run 40,000,000 feet over their quo-

(Continued on page 6)

Greenblatt Midwest Manager for RKO

Herbert H. Greenblatt, manager of RKO Radio's Pittsburgh branch, will succeed L. E. Goldhammer as Midwestern district manager, it was announced at the weekend by general sales manager Robert Mochrie prior to his departure for Hollywood.



Herbert H. Greenblatt

Effective immediately, Greenblatt's new post gives him supervision over the Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Sioux Falls branches, with headquarters in Chicago. Widely

(Continued on page 6)

John C. Flinn Offered MPSA Presidency

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—John C. Flinn will be offered the presidency of the Motion Picture Society for Americas to succeed Harold Hopper, whose appointment to general managership of the M-G-M studio will be followed by the latter's resignation of the MPSA

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of production, GEORGE JESSEL, 20th-Fox producer, and CHARLES FELDMAN left at the weekend for the Coast.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, March of Time advertising and publicity director, left New York over the weekend for a two-week vacation at Nantucket. His secretary, MRS. LLOYD W. DURANT, resigned at the weekend to join her husband in Hollywood, where he is attached to the U. S. Coast Guard motion picture unit.

•

ALLEN G. SMITH, head of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board, is in New York on his vacation.

•

JACK ROSE, secretary-treasurer of Indiana-Illinois Theatres, is spending a two-week vacation in Eagle River, Wis.

•

ROGER CHOUINARD, owner of several theatres around Quebec City, and his wife, are on their honeymoon in New York.

•

SALLY MEISELMAN, secretary to SI FABIAN at the War Activities Committee, left on her vacation at the weekend.

•

HAL HORNE, 20th-Fox advertising and publicity director, is in New Hampshire for a few days rest.

•

JOAN ROGGEN, editor of RKO's "Salute," is on her vacation.

State Dept. Will Hold CommunicationsMeet

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—The State Department at the weekend sent invitations to Government agencies, radio and telecommunication companies and the press to participate in meetings to be held Aug. 11 and 12 for a preliminary discussion of post-war telecommunications.

The Department said the discussions will not lead to any conclusions but will bring out information on communications problems that will be dealt with in proposed international conferences, some of which may be held within a year and others immediately following the war.

Time, Blue Officials Study Television, FM

Eighteen officials of the Blue Network, headed by board chairman E. J. Noble and president Mark Woods, accompanied by a delegation of five from *Time Magazine* under president Roy Larsen, made a two-day visit to the General Electric plant at Schenectady last week for an investigation of television and FM. Owen D. Young, GE board chairman, was host, and talks were given by vice-presidents Robert S. Peare and W. R. G. Baker.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE national exhibitor tax council, a projected organization designed to represent the two national exhibitor organizations, affiliated theatres and unattached regional exhibitor organizations as a unit on matters of taxation, particularly Federal admission taxation, has died aborning. There is an interesting story behind its collapse.

The idea for the formation of the council was conceived last Fall when a proposal for a 30 per cent admission tax was written into the new Federal revenue legislation. Unorganized exhibitor representatives visited Washington and endeavored to convince legislators that the best interests of the theatres and the government would be served if the then existing 10 per cent admissions tax was retained. Working individually, the result in some cases was that the exhibitor representatives worked at cross-purposes, the efforts of some were cancelled out by the misguided zeal of others.

Regardless, a 20 per cent, rather than a 30 per cent tax eventually was enacted. Thus, presumably, one-half the objective was accomplished without organization of exhibitor influence, but certainly not without an element of chance.

•

The experience convinced the several exhibitor representatives who had toiled throughout the period of the hearings on the revenue measure that a national organization, representing all exhibitors, was essential for the proper handling of taxation affecting their interests in the future. There was, and still is, talk that war financing or anti-inflation levies might bring about a 40 per cent or higher admissions tax. Also, there was the prospect that if circumstances permitted the Treasury to reduce the present tax, then State governments would be quick to pick up the resultant slack in what had been scooped up from the box offices within their boundaries. In either case, it was apparent to those men that theatres needed and should have an organization capable of effectively presenting their case whenever tax levies against them were being proposed.

Accordingly, MPTOA, Allied States, all regional exhibitor organizations not identified with those two national groups, and the affiliated circuits were sounded out on the proposal of subscribing to and supporting a national tax council which in the future would coordinate all exhibitor efforts with respect to theatre tax matters in Washington. All of the organizations, except Allied, gave the proposal their enthusiastic approval. Allied, expressing interest at its Chicago directors' meeting last Winter, sent the subject to a committee for study. The committee reported back to the Allied board meeting at Philadelphia last Spring with the result that the board decided not to participate in the council.

•

That was a body blow from which many interested in the project felt the council never would recover. However, a subsequent canvass of MPTOA, state and regional organizations and affiliated circuits revealed broad determination to proceed with the tax council without Allied's participation and arrangements were made for a meeting in Chicago next month of representatives of all the organizations which had agreed to participate.

It remained for the Washington office of the MPPDA to administer the coup de grace to the tax council.

•

Apprised of the plan, Jack Bryson, Hays representative in Washington, is reported to have seen in it an invasion of his domain. In any event, he was completely out of sympathy with the projected tax council and, in opposing it, was upheld by MPPDA headquarters in New York. That defection was fatal to the plan. The proposed September meeting has been cancelled, and the project abandoned despite, we are told, even the remonstrances of heads of several affiliated circuits whose companies are members of the MPPDA.

•

The only possibility of reviving the tax council rests now with the heads of the still interested exhibitor organizations. They must start from scratch. They must find a disinterested leader of the movement, willing and qualified to do the organizing and, later, the administrative work.

A unified and determined exhibitor leadership could accomplish this job that needs doing so badly.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram vi president and general sales ma ager, has returned from a two-we vacation in Yosemite Valley. Broi Scott R. Dunlap and George B. W entrain Wednesday for the Monog convention in Chicago.

•

M-G-M signed Martin Gosh, ra producer of the Abbott and Coste and Jack Carson radio shows, to a te contract as producer, effective Sept. The first will be a musical, probal starring Abbott and Costello.

•

Henry Ginsberg leaves for N York Aug. 11 for conferences on ho office-studio cooperation regarding t ent and stories. William Meikeljol talent department head, accompan him.

•

Following a vacation in New Yo Constance Bennet will arrive here t morrow to start her first independe production, "Paris Underground," f United Artists.

•

James S. Burkett, Monogram pr ducer, left for New York yesterd on business in connection with Charlie Chan series.

•

Republic added "Mexicana," a mu cal, to its schedule. Albert Cohen w produce. It will be filmed partially Mexico.

•

Jack Scholl has been promoted fr writer to director in Warners sh subjects department.

•

Samuel Bronston signed Lewis Mi stone to an exclusive producer-direct contract.

20th-Fox Division Mgrs. Leave N. Y.

Twentieth Century-Fox divisi district and branch managers return to their respective cities at the wee end following the last of several i formal sales conferences at the Ast Hotel and attendance at the premi of "Wilson."

W. C. Gehring, Western sales ma ager, left New York for Los Angel at the same time to attend the Co premiere of "Wilson" at the Carth Circle on Thursday. He will m with personnel of the six Pacif Mountain exchanges.

Mary McCall Resign From the SAG

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—Mary C. M Call, Jr., resigned the presidency of t Screen Writers Guild, due to impen ing maternity. Lester Cole, vice-pre dent, will substitute for the remaind of the term, which ends in Novemb

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more happy notes

from RKO...

Music in Manhattan

Here's a Show That's Got That "GO!"

It's slightly scandalous—and terrifically funny... when a showgirl cutie meets a stranger in the bridal suite... on a three-cornered honeymoon that never lets up on hilarity.. **TRULY THE AMAZIN**

ENTERTAINMENT SURPRISE OF THE YEAR!



Music in M

5

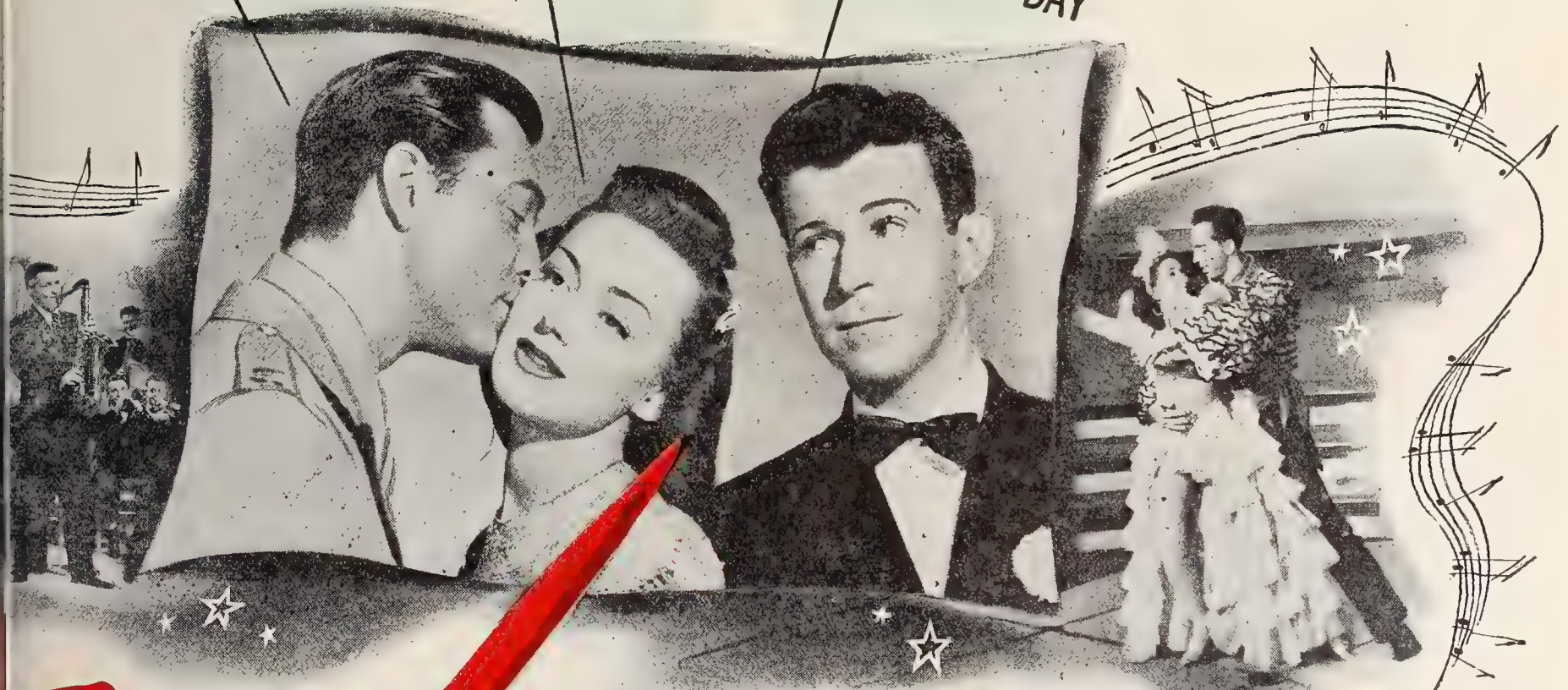
SWELL NEW SONGS ON THE SOLID SIDE:
"One Night in Acapulco"—"I Can See You Now"—"Did You Happen To Find a Heart This Morning?"—"I Liked A Man Who Makes Music"—"When Romance Comes Along".

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

.EAMS
OR
FEMMES
by that
reckless
new
heart-breaker
...the he-man
lover with
the torrid
technique—
PHILLIP TERRY

GAMS,
GLAMOUR
and
GAIETY
by your new
pin-up champ—
ANNE SHIRLEY.
She's been
hiding plenty,
boys—and
here it is!

SIGHS
and
SONGS
and
SILLY
SALLIES
by that problem
child of
Jack Benny's
radio show—
DENNIS DAY



Manhattan

with

ANNE SHIRLEY · DENNIS DAY · PHILLIP TERRY

and Raymond Walburn · Jane Darwell · Patti Brill

CHARLIE BARNET *and his ORCHESTRA* NILO MENENDEZ *and his RHUMBA BAND*

Produced and Directed by JOHN H. AUER · Screen Play by Lawrence Kimble

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Raw Stock Cut 65 Million For Quarter

(Continued from page 1)

tas during the first six months of the year, plus adequately taking care of the situation that arose when the film manufacturers reported a 32,000,000 foot shortage.

The cut in raw stock available during the current quarter is now slightly over 20 per cent and the situation is described as being "critical" with no reserves available in the laboratories and with processing being on what is described as "a hand to mouth basis." However, John J. O'Connor, Universal vice-president, who helped work out the conservation plan, explained here at the weekend that the companies have received assurances from the War Production Board that the present 20 per cent cut is a temporary one and applies only to allotments for the current quarter. He further said that the WPB expects that the present acute situation will be rectified by additional raw stock manufacture by the final quarter of this year.

Executives Assemble Statictics

Film company executives met here at the weekend at the Paramount home office to discuss the situation and are assembling the necessary statistics on their current use of raw stock to see how the cut can be effected without upsetting release dates of current films. In effecting the 65,000,000 cut, the companies would automatically accrue raw stock credits for the final quarter above their allotments for that quarter in addition to working off the 40,000,000 feet which they have overdrawn on their quotas.

The 255,000,000 feet allotment to the industry during the third quarter does not include Army and Navy credits which the companies have amassed during the second quarter and upon which they can draw during the current quarter. The credits, amounting from 40,000,000 to 50,000,000 feet each quarter are allotted to the companies for film they have used in making 35 mm prints for use by the Army and Navy.

The companies will hold their next meeting here Wednesday at which time it is expected that a clearer view of the current situation can be obtained. Walter Cokell of Paramount, who is familiar with the statistics involving the use of the raw stock is helping the companies assemble the data on raw stock which they require.

Greenblatt Midwest Manager for RKO

(Continued from page 1)

experienced as an industry sales executive, Greenblatt joined RKO Radio in 1932.

Two other promotions were announced by Mochrie. Maurice E. Lefko, branch manager at Indianapolis, will assume charge of the Pittsburgh branch succeeding Greenblatt, and Russell L. Brentlinger, Indianapolis salesman, will become branch manager, succeeding Lefko. Both are long time employees of RKO Radio, Lefko joining the company in 1930, and Brentlinger in 1925.

WB and MPOE Start Work on New Pact

(Continued from page 1)

tract; three weeks' vacation with pay for employes with 10 years or more of service; five per cent automatic length of service wage increases every six months; and an increase in the present number of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales from 38 to 53. All wage increases would be limited by the maximums of the classifications but provisions are sought for more liberal promotional and merit wage increases.

The Warner workers will receive a six per cent wage increase effective Thursday according to the terms of the job classification plan worked out between the company and the union earlier this year. A union spokesman reported that progress had been made at the first meeting at the weekend and that an attempt would be made to reach an agrement before Warner executives left for the company's sales meeting in California next week.

'U' Dinner for Abbott And Costello at '21'

Universal home office executives will tender a dinner tonight at Club "21" for Bud Abbott and Lou Costello prior to a special screening of their film "Abbott and Costello in Society."

Executives and guests who are expected to attend include: W. A. Scully, J. J. O'Connor, Budd Rogers, Wm. German, Charles D. Prutzman, S. Machnovitch, E. T. Gomersall, J. H. Seidelman, Maurice Bergman, Fred Meyers, F. J. A. McCarthy, Adolph Schimel, A. J. O'Keefe, J. J. Jordan, C. A. Kirby, Hank Linet, Al Horwits, M. Alin, F. Baronat, Al Daff, J. H. Murphy, A. J. Sharick, E. F. Walsh, E. L. McEvoy, Ed Muhl Charles Moss, Oscar Doob, Ernest Emerling and representatives of the trade press.

John C. Flinn Offered MPSA Presidency

(Continued from page 1)

post, it was learned exclusively by MOTION PICTURE DAILY. In case Flinn's responsibilities as Hollywood co-ordinator of the War Activities Committee and executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, preclude his assuming additional duties, an appropriate executive from outside the industry will be sought.

The selection of a successor to Hopper was discussed this week at several meetings between Francis Alstock, coordinator of Inter-American Affairs representative, and the MPSA board of directors. Alstock left by plane for Washington Sunday night.

Montreal May Get Film Library

MONTREAL, Aug. 6.—The Montreal *Daily Star* in a recent editorial indicated that this city may be endowed with a civic film center. Montreal's present film libraries are privately owned. The planned project would make available to the public educational and entertainment films through the cooperation of the National Film Board of Canada. Representatives of several public organizations here are expected to submit individual plans for the film library in the near future.

PRC's Paris Exchange

(Continued from page 1)

distribution agreement with Pathe, Ltd., of England. In Switzerland and Sweden distribution is handled by the franchise holders. From Paris, Socas said, neighboring countries will be serviced.

In line with the projected expansion in Europe, a dubbing program in French and Italian will be started in order to compete in these markets, Socas stated. Italian dubbing will be done in Italy, where, he said, they are experts in such a process, and the French versions will either be done in this country or France.

More advanced, however, are plans for the adaptation of its 1944-45 product with Spanish voices, with six pictures slated to launch the program. The dubbing, Socas stated, will probably be done in New York. Actual determination of specific titles will result from conferences with the studio, he said.

To Establish S. A. Branches

Roberto D. Socas, foreign sales manager of PRC, will shortly leave for South America to establish company branches in Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Peru, replacing franchise holders.

Socas disclosed also that PRC is contemplating establishment of exchanges in the Near East, with Cairo, Egypt, as the headquarters for the future expansion of the company's operations in that part of the world.

PRC's foreign sales head recently returned from a visit to Central and South America where he organized PRC Pictures of the West Coast, which will cover Central America, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Chile, with headquarters in Colon, Panama. Arturo Gonzalez will be general supervisor of that new company, with Raul Ibanez, sales manager, and Jose Rubio, general secretary. Dr. Jose Lasso de la Vega, attorney for the new company, handled legal details of the incorporation.

Argentina, So. Africa Want Sacred Films

MIAMI, Aug. 6.—Delbert Goodman of Paramount, recently returned from Buenos Aires stated here that the film public in Argentina and South Africa is indicating a desire for pictures of a religious nature. He also stated that films produced in Argentina, while accepted by the natives, have not affected the popularity of American product.

In South Africa where motion pictures are the only form of entertainment, the people are interested in war news reels as well as religious pictures, Goodman said. They particularly like to see the Allies' European victories but show little interest in the Pacific war, he added.

Berlin - Bornstein Dispute in Open

(Continued from page 1)

Bornstein, it is reported. The law firm of Schwartz & Frohlich is counsel for Bornstein in the controversy. O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery represent Berlin.

Early Action on Decree by U.S. Is Predicted Now

(Continued from page 1)

they desire to develop an out-of-cour settlement.

At the Department, officials still ha no comment on the situation but ther were indications that the matter woul not be permitted to hang fire inde nitely. Although no steps were take last week to acquaint the distributor with the Attorney General's views a to what would constitute an accept able decree, this was not due to in ertia but, rather, to the inability o the officials concerned with the matte to get together for a conference. Th meeting is expected to be held early this week and Assistant Attorney General Tom Clark, Wendell Berge and Robert Wright are then expected to work out the strategy to be followed in such further negotiations as the companies may agree to. It was Wright's absence from Washington which prevented such a meeting last week.

Biddle's rejection of the proposals, it developed at the weekend, was not entirely unexpected in informed circles, where it was said there were two or three specific points on which it was felt the Department would take a firm stand. The points were not identified.

Boston Theatre Men Form Hotel Network

BOSTON, Aug. 6.—A group of prominent theatre men here, headed by attorney David Stoneman of Interstate Theatres, has entered the hotel business on a national scale. Among the directors of the new company are Stoneman, Nathan Yamins, also of Interstate; Y. D. Markson, theatre realtor, and Benjamin H. Swig. Stockholders include Harold Stoneman of Interstate, son of David Stoneman; Max Lipson, with Boit, Church and Dalton, theatre insurance firm and Albert List, president of National Refining Co.

The company now owns the Mt. Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods, N. H., and the Palm Beach Hotel in Florida. The elder Stoneman and Swig are members of a group which recently bought the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

Dance Masters Hear Neilson at Meeting

Rutgers Neilson, RKO Radio publicity manager, delivered his annual talk last week on dance advertising and publicity before the Dancing Masters of America now in convention session at the Hotel Henry Hudson.

On Wednesday Neilson will present to the convention a popular social version of the Samba-Jongo, adapted from Walt Disney's "The Three Caballeros," with Eileen Kalin and Fred Frobose of Nutley, New Jersey, as the professional demonstrators.

WAVES Film for Aug. 24

"Report to Judy," one-reel film made by the U. S. Navy to spur enlistments in the WAVES, which is being released by the War Activities Committee and distributed by Universal, has been set for Aug. 24 release.

Independents In Sixth Drive

(Continued from page 1)

serve as co-chairmen in the drive will be announced as soon as all responses to the invitations have been received, which is expected to be within the next few days, together with the names of other campaign officers, it was stated.

As previously announced, the Sixth War Loan drive will open on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, continuing through Dec. 7, the anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

Ted Gamble of the Treasury Department will confer with campaign leaders here next week, at which time quotas for the drive will be discussed. Typical exhibitors whose services are expected to be sought for the drive would be men like William F. Crockett, Hugh Bruen, H. A. Cole, Martin G. Smith, Rotus Harvey, Jack Kirsch, Fred Wehrenberg, Leo Wolcott, Bob White, John Rugar and others.

Bond Contest Winners Run Milwaukee One Day

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 6.—Allen M. Kulakow, 12, and Larry J. Trayser, 14, were named honorary mayor and president of the Common Council, respectively, as winners of the Fifth War Loan Bond sales contest, sponsored here under the direction of Louis W. Orlove, chairman of the Milwaukee country children's bond premieres for the War Activities Committee.

Young Kulakow, credited with the sale of 64 bonds, and Trayser, who sold 63, were given a luncheon today at the Elks Club by Mayor John L. Bohn. Guests included Orlove, Duke Hickey, MPPDA field representative, J. M. Greenberg, coordinator of the City Council Civilian Defense program and Milton J. McGuire, president of the Common Council. The boys' administration will run one day.

Columbia Tops Bond Quota by 12½%

Columbia Pictures purchased over three and one half million dollars worth of War Bonds during the Fifth War Loan campaign, exceeding its quota by 12½%, it was reported Friday by Harry Cohn, president.

The total includes the two-million dollar purchase by the company proper and sales made to Columbia employes who had pledged themselves to raising sufficient funds for a completely equipped 1,500-bed overseas hospital.

Arrange Treasury Tie For WB's 'Janie'

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 6.—The Warner Theatre here, which has booked "Janie" to open following its New York premiere, has arranged, with the Treasury Department, for a "Janie War Bond Hop" to promote sale of "E" Bonds.

Single girls between the ages of 18 and 25 who buy a $25 bond will be entitled to a date with a serviceman for dancing at the Hotel Claridge here to be followed by attendance at a showing of "Janie."

Queens Wins 'Battle Of the Boroughs'

Queens emerged triumphant in the "Battle of the Boroughs" conducted throughout the Metropolitan New York area during the Fifth War Loan campaign, according to a War Activities Committee dispatch issued at the weekend.

Queens theatres' bond sales equalled 56.7 per cent of the total seating capacity in individual bonds. The Bronx was runner-up with 45.5 per cent, with Manhattan running third with 37.7 per cent. Brooklyn emerged in fourth place with 33.3 per cent and Richmond fifth with 30 per cent. Total maturity value of bonds sold is $34,592,581. E-bond sales totalled 325,077.

Over 2 Million in Bonds in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 6.—War bond premieres at the seven local first-run houses on July 29 resulted in the sale of more than $2,000,000 in series "E" bonds, it was reported at the weekend by Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco and chairman of the local War Activities Committee. Attendance at the seven theatres for that day was 21,053.

$500,000 for Loew's

Joint bond sales of Loew's, M-G-M and WHN home offices' personnel totalled $505,681, it was reported at the weekend by Max Wolff, chairman of the Loew's campaign. Wolff stated the Loew's goal had been the financing of a completely equipped hospital train.

Latta Succeeds Golding

G. J. Latta, head of Warner theatres in Albany, has been named exhibitor chairman for the Albany War Activities Committee, succeeding Lou Golding, who recently resigned to join Fabian Theatres' Wilmer and Vincent circuit.

WAC Plans For 11 OWI Shorts

(Continued from page 1)

mon, John C. Flinn, Tom Baily, Taylor M. Mills and Herman Gluckman.

The short subjects are: "His New World," dealing with air cadet recruiting; "It's Murder," for the security branch of the Army, Navy and the FBI; "Story With Two Endings," to prevent postwar inflation; "When He Comes Home," concerning problems of the returned wounded; "So Far So Good," detailing American progress in international relations; "UMRA," covering relief and rehabilitation of liberated territories; "Air Transport Command," showing how military transport forces blaze postwar sky trails; "World Peace Through World Trade," dealing with international commerce; "Postwar Employment," describing industry's part in providing postwar jobs; "Angels of Mercy," for Red Cross drive, and "Two Way Street," an explanation of lend-lease.

Bulletins will pertain to school attendance, Red Cross home nursing, nurses' aides, car-sharing and food surpluses. Additional two-reel subject will cover the Marianas conquest.

Rapf Renews Contract

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6. — Discounting earlier persistent reports about retiring, Harry Rapf signed a new long term contract with M-G-M at the weekend.

Mono. To Dub 25 In Spanish

Having been given the green light by its Latin-American distributors, Monogram has abandoned the practice of super-imposing Spanish titles on its films and will henceforth release only Spanish dubbed versions in Latin America, H. Alban-Mestanza, the company's Latin-Amercan sales supervisor, has revealed. First group of Spanish dubbed films will consist of six, with 25 contemplated for the season, Mestanza said.

"Monogram will be the first to release dubbed pictures in Spanish with the first 'Lady, Let's Dance,' out by the end of August," he predicted. "Before we decided to dub, we put it up to our local franchise holders in Latin America, and they all agreed.

"The actual dubbing is being done in New York. We have signed Alejandro Sux, Argentine novelist, and radio commentator for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, to do the scripts, which are of the utmost importance. Raul de Leon will direct."

Mestanza said that Monogram is drawing from a pool of 300 Latin-American radio actors, many with neutral Spanish accents, for its dubbing program. The casts will be mixed, he said, so no particular accent will predominate.

First six titles, which were selected by the company's Latin-American distributors are: "The Unknown Guest," "Charlie Chan in the Chinese Cat," "Return of the Apeman," "Detective Kitty O'Day," one Johnny Mack Brown Western, and "Lady, Let's Dance."

Dubbing, which is a major production job, has been forced on American producers because their product has been losing ground in playing time to Mexican and Argentine films, Mestanza concluded.

Mono. to Do 2 Versions Of 'Chan' in Mexico

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6. — Producer James Burkett will film separate Spanish-language and English versions of Monogram's "Charlie Chan in Mexico" in Mexico City, taking the company there on the invitation of the Mexican consul.

'Harem' Showing Off Until August 28

M-G-M's "Lost in a Harem," originally set for tradeshowings on Aug. 10 will be screened instead in all exchanges on Aug. 28. The Aug. 28 date recently announced for showings of "Kismet" and "Mrs. Parkington" has been postponed indefinitely.

"Maisie Goes to Reno" will be shown Aug. 10 and "Marriage is a Private Affair" on Aug. 21. M-G-M's ninth block, consisting of the aforementioned films in addition to the previously screened "The Seventh Cross" and "Barbary Coast Gent" is now complete.

U. S. Directors in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 6. — Fortunio Bonanova and Frederick Davison have arrived here from Los Angeles. Bonanova will direct Filmex's "Saucy Susana" and Davison will do "The Ravine" for Alfonso Sanchez Tello.

Heat Closes Offices Early for Weekend

On account of the extreme heat, most home offices closed early Friday for the weekend, as did offices in other lines of business. Receipts at Broadway first-run theatres were not much affected by the weather, but attendance was considerably off in the outlying areas.

Big UA Press Book Out on 'Went Away'

An 18-inch-square press book covering all material up-to-date on David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" and making provision for material later developed, has been prepared by United Artists under the direction of Lou Pollock, advertising-publicity chief.

The book contains insert folder sections on promotion, exploitation, publicity and advertising and two supplemental sections for campaign ideas that are to follow. On the back of each section is a sepia photo designed to illustrate the film's qualities of romance, laughter, pathos, drama, warmth and spectacle.

TBA Sets 1st Annual Meet for Dec. 7-8

The first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association will be held in New York Dec. 7-8, it has been announced. O. B. Hanson, vice-president and chief engineer of the National Broadcasting Company and a director of TBA, has been named chairman of the conference committee. Jack R. Poppele, secretary and chief engineer of station WOR, will be conference coordinator and Will Baltin, TBA secretary-treasurer, will be in charge of press and public relations for the meeting. The site of the conference and its program will be announced later.

Four More 'Romance' Screenings Set

Four additional special screenings and luncheons in connection with M-G-M's "An American Romance" have been set, the home office reported at the weekend. Brian Donlevy will appear at all showings. The film will be screened today at the Varsity Theatre in Milwaukee, tomorrow at the Loring in Minneapolis; Wednesday at the North Shore Theatre, Duluth and Friday at the Fisher in Detroit. Donlevy, accompanied by Ted Morris of the M-G-M publicity staff, will arrive in New York Aug. 12 a three day stay.

First USO Troupers Lands in Normandy

The first contingent of USO-Camp Show entertainers has landed in Normany, it was reported at the weekend in a dispatch from the Army Special Services Division. Included in the group are 43 entertainers.

For several months the performers have been in England awaiting orders to leave for France. USO headquarters here reported that over 61,000 performances have been given before 50,000,000 servicemen.

BIGGEST OP

FOR CE

because

IT'S

The story of a "lost generation" —the boys and girls who grow up in the turmoil of a world struggle.

All guards down!

All brakes off!

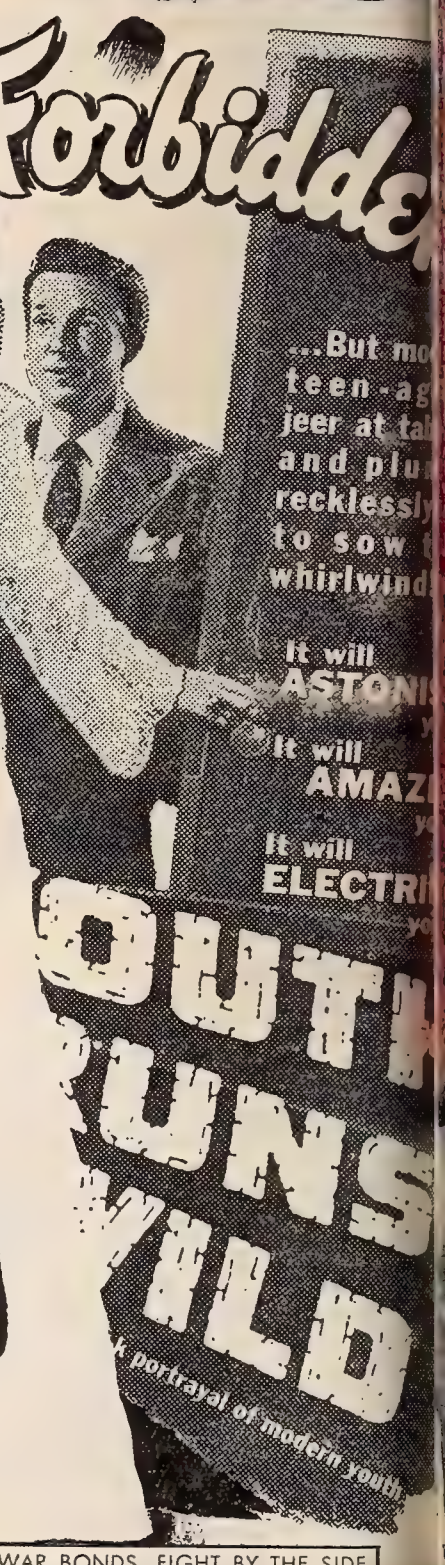
Introductions? Out of date in a world that moves as swiftly as the modern 'teen-ager's! Tonight's pick-up may be tomorrow's discard . . . but in the meantime . . .

A picture of modern youth that will leave you gasping!

Youth RUNS WILD

BONITA GRANVILLE · KENT SMITH · JEAN BROOKS

...VERNON · TESSA BRIND



RKO IS ON THE AIR to sell more seats for you!

15-minute program daily, Monday through Friday, over 127 stations of the Blue Network, Coast to Coast . . . local plugs for local RKO shows!

HOLLYWOOD STAR TIME

12:15 P. M. daily

...day through Friday

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE

ING IN YEAR

URY THEATRE, ROCHESTER

LY!

IT'S EXPLOITABLE!

IT'S THE BIG SHOW THAT HITS HOME ON TEEN-AGE WILDNESS!

IT'S BACKED BY SUPER-SENSATIONAL ADVERTISING!

YOUTH RUNS WILD

(Samples of the sensational ads for crowds at your theatre.)



gs happen
15-year-
leaves

Get Your Copy Of The
Book And GO TO TOWN On A

'Way' First Holdover At Minn. House

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 6.—"Going My Way" drew $24,000 at Radio City theatre here in its second week, and the film is being held over for a third week, setting an all-time record for the theatre which has never before had held a picture.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 3:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
STATE—(2,300)—(44c-60c) 9 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,400).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,400).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 3rd week downtown. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th Fox)
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,700).
"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
WORLD—(350) (44c-55c-60c-80c) 7 days Gross: $1,800. (Average: $2,400).
"The Contender" (PRC)
"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 7 days. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,600).

'Way' Gets Terrific $24,600 in 3rd Week

BUFFALO, Aug. 6.—"Going My Way," in its third week at the Great Lakes grossed $24,600. "Step Lively" was bidding for runnerup honors at $17,500 at the Twentieth Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 5:

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,600. (Average: $16,200).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,200).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

'Way' Takes Record $34,000 in 3rd Week

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 6.—"Going My Way" moved from the Stanley to the Penn with an estimated gross of $34,000, one of the highest records for a third week showing.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,800) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,350).

MendelsonTakesOver UA Boston Office

BOSTON, Aug. 6.—Leon Mendelson, formerly of the United Artists' New Haven branch, last week took over his new duties as UA office manager, here, replacing Joseph Carroll. He is working under Jim Winn, district manager, and John Dervin, branch manager.

Reviews

"San Antonio Kid"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Aug. 6

WELL-PLOTTED and chock-full of action, this picture, on which William O'Sullivan was executive producer and John Auer associate, ranks with the best of the recent westerns. Wild Bill Elliott, photogenic and fast on the trigger, is cast once more as Red Ryder, but his sidekick this time is played by Earl Hodgins, who does a satisfactory job.

Norman S. Hall's screenplay is the familiar one about the saloon-keeper who, in cohoots with the dishonest employe of an oil company, plans to trick the ranchers out of their land before it becomes known that there is oil on the property. Aided by Duncan Renaldo as the San Antonio Kid, together with Hodgins and Bobby Blake, who plays Little Beaver, the cowboy outshoots, outrides and outwits the villains.

Howard Bretherton's direction aims for suspense and, according to the reaction of a midday audience at Hollywood's Hitching Post Theatre, achieves it in fine fashion.

Release date, not set. Running time, 59 mins. "G."*

THALIA BELL

"Seven Doors to Death"

(PRC Pictures)

Hollywood, Aug. 6

AS standard melodramatic fare, this picture gets by. There's plenty of action, and a supremacy of shots and screams in the dark. Unfortunately, the screenplay by Elmer Clifton, who also directed, is both confused and confusing. It's about a group of tenants in a privately-owned and high-tone housing project, all of whom are logical suspects in a series of murders. There are some stolen jewels in it, too, and a mummified corpse in the basement.

Chick Chandler is cast as an innocent bystander who is accidentally drawn into the train of events, and then becomes attracted to June Clyde, who is one of the leading suspects. He does a little sleuthing on his own, and comes up with all the right answers.

Others in the cast include George Meeker, Michael Raffeto, Gregory Gay, Edgar Dearing, Rebel Randall, Milton Wallace and Casey MacGregor.

Production was by Alfred Stern.

Running time, 64 minutes. Release date, July 25. "G."

THALIA BELL

"West of the Rio Grande"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Aug. 6

JOHNNY MACK BROWN and Raymond Hatton uphold the principles of democracy and ensure the American way of life in this well-written Western which Lambert Hillyer directed and Charles J. Bigelow supervised.

The story, by Betty Burbridge, tells of the attempts of a crooked politician to take over the town of Keenesburgh and its surrounding territories by falsifying election returns, thus ensuring the return of his henchmen to office. He is foiled by the arrival of the two cowboys, Nevada and Sandy, one masquerading as a gunman, the other as a schoolteacher. Both give convincing performances, and Kenneth Macdonald, cast as the heavy, is sufficiently suave. Lloyd Ingraham's portrayal of a Civil War veteran adds a touch of gentle comedy. Brief glimpses of Christine McIntyre reveal that she is very pretty indeed.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* Release date, Aug. 5, 1944.

THALIA BELL

*"G" denotes general classification.

Kintner Blue V.-P.

Robert E. Kintner, former Washington newspaper columnist and more recently medically discharged as a Lt. Colonel in the U. S. Army, has been elected a vice-president of the Blue Network and, effective Sept. 15, he will join the network to act in a supervisory capacity over the general public service and public relations activities of the network.

Censors Approve 73

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—The board of censors have approved 73 pictures reviewed during July. Columbia's "Cry of the Werewolf" was given an "adults only" rating. No films were rejected.

'Kitty' Goes Overseas

The Army Overseas Motion Picture Service has requested 16 mm. prints of Columbia's "Kansas City Kitty," scheduled for national release Aug. 24.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 6

PRODUCTION at PRC Studios is now running two and a half months ahead of schedule. Of the 1944-45 list, 15 will have been completed by October 31. Titles included are "Dixie Jamboree," "Swing Hostess," "I Accuse My Parents," "I'm from Arkansas," "Bluebeard," "The Great Mike," "The Town Went Wild," "Here We Go Again," "Hollywood and Vine," "Fog Island," "Crime, Inc.," Kid Sister," "Swamp Man," "Joe Comes Home," and "First Illusion."

•

Abbott and Costello are on their way East to launch a plan to provide underprivileged youngsters with free vacations. . . . John Miljan, Vivian Osborne and George Meeker have been given featured roles in PRC's "I Accuse My Parents." . . . Isobel Elsom has been handed one of the leading character roles in "Of Human Bondage," currently shooting at the Warner studio. . . . Harry Crocker, Los Angeles newspaperman, has been assigned the role of Arthur Brisbane in Bing Crosby's production, "The Great John L." . . . Lambert Hillyer will direct "The Ghost of Indian Springs," Monogram Western, starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton.

•

Edward Brophy has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn for a role in "The Wonder Man," Technicolor comedy starring Danny Kaye. . . . The feminine lead in Warner's "God Is My Co-Pilot" has been assigned to Andrew King. . . . Eddie Cline will direct "Swingeroo Sweethearts" for Universal. . . . Marie McDonald has been borrowed by International Pictures to play the second lead as Sonja Henie's romantic rival in "It's a Pleasure." . . . Mary Pickford, Hunt Stromberg and Dudley Murphy are bringing Pedro Armendariz, one of Mexico's leading film stars, to Hollywood under a three-way contract. . . . David Butler has been assigned to direct "San Antonio," the next Errol Flynn starrer, which Robert Buckner will produce at the Warner studio.

•

A series of television productions in Telecina entitled "Tele-Tales" is planned by Patrick Michael Cunning Television Productions. Forty subjects will comprise the group, which will be based upon fairy tales, among them "Jack and the Bean Stalk." . . . Tim Ryan has been added to the cast of "Murder in the Family," which will start soon at Monogram. . . . George Dolenz has been signed for the role of the detective in Universal's "Arsene Lupin." . . . Chester Conklin silent film comic, has been added to the cast of "Betrayal from the East" at RKO Radio. . . . Dewey Robinson will play the part of "Diamond Jim Brady" in Bing Crosby's production of "The Great John L." . . . "Musical Roundup," a period western comedy with music, has been assigned to Warren Wilson to produce for Universal. . . . W. R. Frank is arranging to send Paul Endor and Claudia Drake on a personal appearance tour tying in with pre-release showings of "Enemy of Women."

M. P. DAILY
BOXOFFICE
FILM DAILY
M. P. HERALD
VARIETY
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
DAILY VARIETY
THE INDEPENDENT
SHOWMEN'S T. R.
THE EXHIBITOR

All HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO!

No. 5 Showmen's Trade Review says:

"Hilarious comedy by the man who made the now famous 'Miracle of Morgan's Creek'... Picture that every audience can enjoy...should become top box-office attraction."

Watch N.Y. Paramount World Premiere — Wednesday!

Paramount's

HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO



starring

Eddie BRACKEN with **Ella Raines**

and **Wm. DEMAREST** • **Raymond Walburn** • **Franklin Pangborn**

Elizabeth Patterson • **Bill Edwards**

Written and Directed by **PRESTON STURGES**

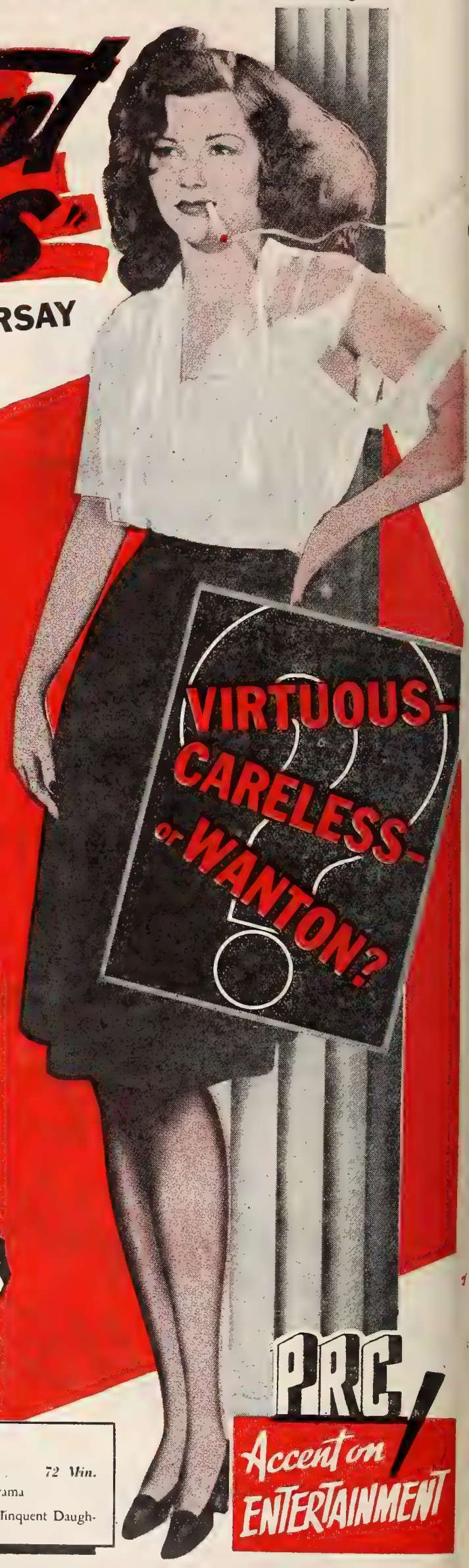
HOT FROM THE HEADLINES!

TRADE PAPERS CHEER

"Delinquent DAUGHTERS"

JUNE CARLSON FIFI D'ORSAY
TEALA LORING

Original Screenplay—Arthur St. Claire
Directed by ALBERT HERMAN



THE Hollywood REPORTER

'DAUGHTERS' OK

"DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS"
(American-PRC)

If it is not too late in the field—and it probably isn't—"Delinquent Daughters" should do very well for itself because it has more vitality, more action and more story than most of the juvenile delinquency films which have preceded it

The situation is not sugar-coated Some of the youngsters are extremely bad and even the most likeable have taken the preliminary steps in the wrong direction But an engaging cast of youngsters—almost too engaging for the roles they play—does

"Has pace and vitality."

as his partner Frank McGlynn as the judge, Joe Devlin as a helpful police officer, John Christian Frank Stephens and Sheila Roddick as delinquent parents all register well.

Albert Herman's direction gives the picture pace and vitality, although it is a bit too emphatic at times He and Donald C McKean were co-producers. Ira Morgan's photography is good.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Delinquent Daughters

RC Drama 72 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Family) Deals understandingly with the juvenile delinquency question and will satisfy parents and children alike.

BOX-OFFICE SLANT: Title and exploitation possibilities should make it a worthy attraction.

Comment: This is on a par with all the other juvenile delinquency pictures the studios have been turning out of late And like the others, deals with the problem of what to do about our teen-agers, placing the entire blame for the condition on the neglect of the "parents" It is a picture that should do well among family audiences, especially in the theatres where the com

"Has tremendous exploitation possibilities."

angles having tation possibilities, so use newspaper headlines, etc., to attract attention to the film

"Through sheer exploitation importance Rates 85% on rental worth."
Hollywood Motion Picture Review

"Contains more action than most."
Motion Picture Herald

THE Film DAILY

"Delinquent Daughters"

with June Carlson, Fifi D'Orsay, Teala Loring
(HOLLYWOOD PREVIEW)

PRC 72 Mins.

GOOD EXPLOITATION OFFERING HIGHLIGHTED BY WORK OF A NEWCOMER.

This is a good exploitation offering, highlighted by the work of screen newcomer Teala Loring and Jon Dawson, who are standouts in an excellent cast. Donald C. McKean and Albert Herman

"good exploitation offering."

anding. Joe Duncan, Jimmy Zaner and Marga Dean are important principals, while Mary Bovard effectively takes care of the comedy.

DIRECTION, Splendid. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

BOXOFFICE

Delinquent Daughters F Drama
PRC PICTURES (416) 72 Minutes Rel. July 15, '44

It possesses h pical theme If the ings of similar s con- tribution to in normal marke

"a safe bet for top grosses."

The Independent

Delinquent Daughters *72 Min.*
(PRC Pictures) Juve Delinx Melodrama

As an exploitable piece of merchandise, "Delinquent Daughters" will make good

PRC
Accent on ENTERTAINMENT

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 26 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1944 TEN CENTS

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U. S. Asks Court to Order Divorcement of Theatres

Would Have Pictures Sold Singly; Halt All Circuit Film Buying and Authorize Local Arbitrators to Eliminate Zone Clearance

Apparently abandoning all attempts to reach an agreement on a new amended consent decree with major companies, the Department of Justice yesterday filed an application in U. S. District court in New York for an order which would summarily amend the decree to provide, among other things, for the divorcement of exhibition from production and distribution within three years and which would require the five consenting companies to divest themselves immediately of such theatres as may be necessary to restore competition if exhibition monopolies are found to exist in individual communities.

The government motion for amendments to the decree also asks that pictures be sold singly, asserting that it believes that recent Supreme Court decisions "have made it clear that the forcing of feature licenses by the tying of one copyright to another is unlawful," even in the case of the present decree procedure of selling in blocks of five.

In addition, the petition would prevent any of the consenting companies, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, from acquiring any further theatre interests immediately upon entry of the order.

Asserting that the decree provisions designed to check circuit buying power (Sections 5 and 10) "have proved wholly inadequate" the government petition asks that Section 5 be amended to prohibit the conditioning of a license in one theatre on the making of a license in another theatre in order that all theatres may compete

(*Continued on page 3*)

1st Fifth Loan Sales Reports; $327,974,309

4,267 Theatres Reports Are in, Says O'Donnell

With the nation's 16,000 theatres mobilized to sell 12,000,000 individual bonds in the Fifth War Loan drive, first reports streaming in from the field showed that 1,462,448 bond sales, amounting to a maturity value of $327,924,309, had been made by 4,267 theatres, Robert J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman, stated here yesterday.

The total bond sales in the Fifth Loan represent a boost of 20 per cent over the previous drive. O'Donnell declined to break down the theatres

(*Continued on page 15*)

Record Heat Fails To Hurt Grosses

The year's record-breaking heat spell over the past weekend had but slight effect on the record and near-record grosses being registered by "Wilson" at the Roxy, "Since You Went Away" at the Capitol and "Dragon Seed" at the Radio City Music Hall. Warner's "Jane," which opened last Friday at the Strand, is also doing impressive business.

"Wilson" is headed for a record gross at the Roxy, with $112,000 taken in on the first five days ending Sunday night and over $150,000 expected on the first week. This is an all-time house record since the inception of the Roxy policy of films and stage shows. Combined with Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians, the Roxy show runs three hours and ten minutes, limiting the house to five shows daily.

"Since You Went Away" will bring the Capitol close to $85,000 on

(*Continued on page 15*)

Rust Buys Dallas Mono. Franchise

DALLAS, Aug. 7.—Lloyd Rust, branch manager of Republic Pictures, Dallas, for the past 10 years, has bought John Franconi's half-interest in the Monogram franchise, Dallas, to become co-owner with Ed Blumenthal and assuming the duties of general manager of the Dallas company, Aug. 26. He will, however, attend Monogram's national convention in

(*Continued on page 15*)

Clark, Decree Are Divorced; Berge at Helm

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Filing of the Government's motion in the consent decree case today put Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, at the helm and took the matter out of the hands of Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, who conducted the negotiations with the distributors.



Tom C. Clark

Clark, who inherited the case when he succeeded former Assistant Attorney General

(*Continued on page 15*)

Berlin Cites 'Army' Earnings for AER

Army Emergency Relief has already received over $8,000,000 from Warner Bros. from the receipts of the film "This Is the Army" and $2,000,000 from the proceeds of the stage play, Irving Berlin, producer of the play, stated during an interview here yesterday upon his return from a tour with the show for British and American troops in Italy, which saw him play four months of continued performances.

Berlin indicated that the show is now bound for other war theatres and will eventually be seen by our troops throughout the world. The overseas troop of 160 men played to over 100,000 men of the U. S. Fifth Army while in Italy; made 35 appearances at Army hospitals; and raised 310,000 lira for relief of Italian children at a civilian benefit show in Rome. Speaking about the reception of the play in the English prov-

(*Continued on page 15*)

Government's Move Taken Under Terms Of Consent Decree

The Department of Justice's sudden move yesterday in filing a petition for the modification of the consent decree here was accomplished under the provisions of Section 23 of the decree, which permits any of the parties to the decree to go into court to seek relief from provisions of the decree under certain conditions.

The move does not initiate trial of the Government's anti-trust suit pending here. It is, rather, an attempt by the Government to obtain the relief sought in the suit without a trial. The next step by the Department of Justice will be to have the petition set down for a hearing, with the date of such hearing, to be set. At the hearing, the Department of Justice will have to

(*Continued on page 15*)

UA Holds Foreign Sales Meet Today

United Artists' foreign managers in Central and South America, who arrived in New York during the past week, will hold a sales meeting at the Warwick Hotel today. Walter Gould, UA's foreign manager, will preside at the meeting, which will include a discussion of the company's sales policies on forthcoming product, including several foreign language features, and an announcement on the company's plans for expansion in Latin-America in the postwar.

Managers who will attend include: Sam Seidelman, Argentina; Enrique Baez, Brazil; Joe Goltz, Mexico;

(*Continued on page 15*)

Miss Ludwig Heads Cinema Mercantile

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Miss Ludy Ludwig, for several years vice-president of Cinema Mercantile Corp., has taken over the presidency vacated by Harold Hopper following his appointment last week as general manager of the M-G-M studios. Today's move, made to clarify the status of CMT, which supplies properties to independent producers, entails no change in Hopper's ownership of the company at all.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, is scheduled to leave the Coast for New York on Friday following an extended visit at the studio.

•

CARL LESERMAN, U.A. general sales manager, and EDWARD SCHNITZER, home office executive, returned yesterday from the company's sales meeting in Chicago.

•

CORP. MONROE GOODMAN, formerly with Paramount, is in town on a furlough from Kelly Field, San Antonio, Tex., where he operates the post theatre.

•

ROBERT J. KILPATRICK, treasurer at the United Artists home office, and MRS. KILPATRICK are the parents of a baby girl born Friday night at the Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, N. J.

•

CAPT. MATTY FOX, former Universal vice-president, arrived here yesterday from London, en route to Washington.

•

TREM CARR, executive director at Monogram, and SAM WOLF, company attorney, are at Las Vegas for a week's vacation.

•

EMANUEL SILVERSTONE of United Artists returned yesterday from a vacation at Napanoch.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant sales manager, has returned from Kansas City.

•

HUGH OWEN, Vanguard general sales manager, has returned from a month's trip to the Coast.

•

IRVING SHIFRIN of the RKO Radio publicity department returned yesterday from a vacation.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE of Universal left for Detroit last night.

Williams Named UA Exploitation Head

Rex Williams, manager of Loew's Theatres in St. Louis, has been appointed director of exploitation for United Artists, it was announced yesterday by Louis Pollock, advertising and publicity head of the company. Williams, still in St. Louis, will not assume his duties until the middle of the month.

A graduate of Indiana State College, Williams has been in show business for some 20 years. One of his first important assignments was in 1927 when he managed the Grand Theatre in Terre Haute. In 1932, he joined the Butterfield circuit in Michigan as assistant to E. C. Beatty, president, and special field representative. From 1936 until he joined Loew's Theatres four years ago, he was district manager for the Indiana-Illinois Theatre circuit.

Ezell to Be an OCR Industry Consultant

Washington, Aug. 7. — Claude C. Ezell, Dallas exhibitor, will serve as an industry consultant to the Office of Civilian Requirements of the War Production Board, it was learned today. Ezell arrived from Dallas yesterday and conferred with Donald R. Longman, OCR head, concerning his new dollar-a-year post today.

Hickey Closes Two More Conn. Houses

HARTFORD, Conn., Aug. 7. — State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey at the weekend ordered closed the Empire Theatre in New London and the Gem in Naugatuck because, he stated, "of conditions which make their use as places of public assemblage hazardous." Commissioner Hickey's inspection of all public gathering places in Connecticut followed the disastrous circus fire here on July 6, which resulted in the death of 166 persons.

Lt. Frank Starkwell, deputy state fire marshal, conducted the investigation of the Empire, with fire chief Thomas Shipman and building inspector William Gunn of New London, which resulted in the shut-down order. Earl Morin, state motion picture theatre inspector, with an investigator apointed by the state fire marshal, ordered the Gem closed.

Two weeks ago Commissioner Hickey declared the Strand Theatre in Norwich and a house in Mystic "unsafe" and revoked the licenses of the operators of both theatres.

Raftery Returns for Board Meet Today

Edward C. Raftery, United Artists' president, will return from several weeks of vacation in time for the regular monthly meeting of the company's board of directors today.

While Raftery had anticipated for this session possible action on the impending deal for UA American distribution of J. Arthur Rank's British films, the matter is expected to be deferred until the September meeting, inasmuch as Gradwell L. Sears, distribution vice-president, has not yet returned from England, where he is negotiating details of the transaction.

Moskowitz in Million Dollar Bond Club

Charles C. Moskowitz of Loew's, general chairman of New York's "Fighting Fifth" War Loan committee, was the initial person to purchase a $1,000 bond and become a member of the $1,000,000 Bond Club, organized by girls who staffed the bond booth at the giant cash register on Times Square here during the recent War Loan drive.

The object of the organization is to raise one million dollars through individual $1,000 bond sales, to be turned over to the Sixth War Loan drive.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 7

BRIGADIER GEN. JOSEPH W. BYRON, chief of the Army special services division, will address leaders of the industry Wednesday at the Beverly Hills Hotel on the need for continuing the war effort. He is accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Marvin Young, in charge of entertainment.

•

Samuel Goldwyn announced "Home Again," a story of returning soldiers, to feature Teresa Wright, David Niven, Dana Andrews and Walter Brennan. Filming will start as soon as the full cast is available.

•

RKO Radio Pictures signed Eddie Cantor to produce and star in a musical. No subject or starting date has as yet been set.

•

Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of production, and George Jessel, 20th-Fox producer, were arrivals today.

•

PRC elevated director Edgar Ulmer to a producership. He will produce and direct three for the 1944-45 program.

•

Victor Adams, executive aide to Charles P. Skouras, left today on the Chief for New York on Greek War Relief and War Chest business.

•

S. Barret McCormick and Terry Turner of RKO Radio have arrived from New York.

•

Charles Reed Jones of Republic arrived today.

Legion Classifies 7

The Legion of Decency classified at the weekend the following pictures reviewed last week: A-1: "Gypsy Wildcat," Universal; "Sheriff of Sundown," Republic; "Wilson," 20th Century-Fox; A-2, "Bride by Mistake," RKO; "Kansas City Kitty" and Columbia; B, "Cry of the Werewolf," Columbia, and "Mademoiselle Fifi," RKO.

Silverstone Hosts Press

Murray Silverstone, 20th-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, will be host to the trade press at a luncheon at the Hotel Plaza today prior to his departure for South America.

CTC Election Today

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 7. — The California Theatre Council postponed its election of officers scheduled last Friday, until Tuesday.

Republic-FWC Deal

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 7. — James R. Grainger arrived here today to set up the new season's Republic deal with Fox-West Coast Theatres.

Bette Davis Co-Producer

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Bette Davis will become co-producer with Jack Chertok on "Stolen Life," her next vehicle after "The Corn Is Green," now in production, is finished. She also will star in it.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Extra! SEE DEMOCRACY AT WORK!
AMERICANS ALL
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME
A 20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE

5TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BING CROSBY
Rise Stevens
IN PARAMOUNT'S
'GOING MY WAY'
IN PERSON
HI, LO, JACK and the DAME
MILT HERTH TRIO

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

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U. S. Seeks Divorcement in Three Years

Would Retain Trade Shows, Arbitration

(*Continued from page* 1)

on their individual merits for the licensing of films from the defendants.

The proposed modification of Section 10 wipes out all of the requirements limiting those who may arbitrate for specific runs and substitutes money damages for individual licensing as the relief granted. In addition, the section would be expanded to cover any discrimination in violation of the Sherman Act, in addition to run discrimination. Any alleged discriminina-tory violation of the Sherman Act thus would be subject to arbitration within the industry tribunals.

Changes in Section 8 would reject the contention that clearance is essential to distribution of films and unreasonable clearance would be defined as any clearance which unreasonably restrains competition between theatres. It would permit an arbitrator to eliminate all clearance even between highly competitive theatres on a finding that it is unreasonable that a complainant's theatre should be made to follow another. In addition, clearance held by an affiliated theatre on the product of the company with which it is affiliated would be made subject to arbitration.

The government petition also asks that all theatre pooling agreements be eliminated and all existing franchises be voided and the making of new ones prohibited.

Commends AAA

Commending the American Arbitration Association and the appeal board for the manner in which they have administered arbitration proceedings and appeals "within the limits imposed by the substantive sections of the decree," the petition asks for the retention of all provisions relating to the mechanics of the arbitration system and, presumably, its financing by the consenting companies.

Also, Sections 6 and 7, providing for the arbitration of complaints involving the inability to license any run and the licensing of features found to be locally offensive, respectively, are left unchanged.

Request is made that the trade-showing section of the decree (Section 3) which expired Sept. 1, 1942, again be made effective.

In a statement issued in Washington in connection with the filing of the petition yesterday, Attorney General Francis Biddle said: "The Department believes that in order to bring the operations of the defendants into conformity with the requirements of the Sherman Law a complete separation of their theatre operating business from their producing and distributing activities, and the divestiture of a substantial number of theatres from the theatre operating companies owned by them, is essential.

"In view of the practical difficulties involved in bringing about such a drastic change in the structure of the industry by judicial means, the Department, in 1940, was willing to postpone its efforts to secure such relief for a three-year period while the consent decree was given a trial and other motion picture cases were litigated. The results to date of that litigation and the decisions of the Supreme Court in other Sherman Law cases since 1940 have reinforced the Department's original conclusion, first expressed in its complaint filed in 1938, that conformity with law requires such a modification in the industry's economic structure."

Five Consenting Companies Did Not Anticipate Government's Move

The lawyers for the five consent decree companies apparently had no advance notice of the Department of Justice's decision to file a petition for modification of the consent decree. Attorneys questioned yesterday frankly admitted that it was an unexpected move. They pointed out that the Justice Deparment had not indicated what concessions they would have to make if a new consent decree was to be arrived at voluntarily between the companies and the Department of Justice. They had made all the concessions which they felt were economically sound to the conduct of their business.

Scanning the text of the Government's position, one lawyer readily admitted that if the modifications sought were obtained, it would completely revolutionize the trade practices of the film industry. All the companies involved immediately set about to study the Government's petition but there were no joint consultations yesterday. Lawyers frankly admitted that they hadn't planned their next move yet.

The Text of Government's Consent Decree Proposals

FOLLOWING is the text of the Government's proposals for an amended consent decree, which it seeks to have the Federal court here enter by order, rather than by trial:

"Sections 3 and 4 (A) of said decree have been inoperative since September 1, 1942, and the restraining provisions of Section 11 have been inoperative since Nov. 20, 1943. Said decree is now inadequate to perform its intended function of restraining the violations of law alleged in the complaint and conforming the operation of the decree defendants to the requirements of the Sherman Act. Plaintiff respectfully submits that an order to perform said functions of said decree should be modified in the respects set forth in the following paragraphs. Where no mention is made of an existing section, no change is requested. As to Section 3, trade showings, no change in the form thereof is requested but plaintiff prays that said section may again be made operative.

"Plaintiff prays that Subsection (A) of Section 4 of the decree be stricken therefrom and that the following subsection (A) be substituted:

"No distributor defendant shall condition the licensing of one feature or group of features upon the licensing of another feature or group of features.

"Plaintiff further prays that the last two paragraphs of Subsection (B) of Section 4, which appears on pages 6 and 7 of the decree, be amended, as prayed herein, to read as follows:

"(A) No distributor defendant shall condition the licensing of one feature or group of features upon the licensing of another feature or group of features.

"(B) No distributor defendant shall require an exhibitor to license short subjects, newsreels, trailers, or serials, (hereinafter collectively referred to as shorts) as a condition of licensing features. No distributor defendant shall require an exhibitor to license reissues, Westerns or foreigns (hereinafter collectively referred to as foreigns) as a condition of licensing other features.

"(3) Plaintiff prays that the following be substituted for Section V:

(A) No decree defendant shall condition the licensing of films in one theatre or group of theatres upon licensing of films in another theatre or group of theatres.

Re-Defines Clearance

(4) Plaintiff prays that Section VIII of the decree be modified by striking therefrom the sentence: "It is recognized that clearance, reasonable as to time and area, is essential in the distribution and exhibition of motion pictures" and substitute the following sentence, "Clearance shall be deemed to be unreasonable whenever its effect is to restrain competition between two or more theatres unreasonably." By adding the following clause to the provisions defining the power of the arbitrator: "An award providing that a theatre holding clearance found to be unreasonable should take no clearance over the complainants' theatre may be made regardless of whether or not there is substantial competition between said theatres" and by striking the following two provisions:

Subject to the provisions contained herein, the arbitrator may fix such maximum clearance under any existing franchise or any license entered into pursuant to such franchise between distributor defendant and any other party bound by this decree."

Nothing contained in this section shall be deemed to restrict, and no award made in any arbitration under this section shall restrict, the exhibitor's right to license for any theatre any run which he is able to negotiate

Text of New Gov't Decree Amendments

(*Continued from column* 3)

with any distributor, nor the distributor's right to license for any theatre any run which it desires to grant.

Said Section VIII, if modified as prayed herein, would read as follows:

"Controversies arising upon the complaint of an exhibitor that the clearance applicable to his theatre is unreasonable shall be subject to arbitration under the following provisions:

"Clearance shall be deemed to be unreasonable whenever its effect is to restrain competition between two or more theatres unreasonably.

In determining whether any clearance complained of is unreasonable, the arbitrator shall take into consideration the following factors and accord to them the importance and weight to which each is entitled regardless of the order in which they are listed:

(1) The historical development of clearance in the particular area wherein the theatres involved are located.

(2) The admission prices of the theatres involved.

(3) The character and location of the theatres involved, including size, type of entertainment, appointments, transit facilities, etc.

(4) The policy of operation of the theatres involved, such as the showing of double features, gift nights, giveaways, premiums, cut rate tickets, lotteries, etc.

(5) The rental terms and license fees paid by the theatres involved and the revenues derived by the distributor defendant from such theatres.

(6) The extent to which the theatres involved compete with each other and other business considerations, except that the arbitrator shall disregard the fact that a theatre involved is affiliated with a distributor or with a circuit of theatres.

Arbitrator's Power

"The power of the arbitrator in deciding any such controversy shall be limited to make (1) a finding as to whether or not the clearance complained of is unreasonable; and if the finding be in the affirmative; (2) an award fixing the maximum clearance between the theatres involved which may be granted in licenses thereafter entered into by the distributor defendant which is a party to the arbitration. An award providing that a theatre holding clearance found to be unreasonable shall take no clearance over the complainant's theatres may be made regardless of whether or not there is substantial competition between said theatres.

"Any distributor defendant or any exhibitor affected by such an award may institute a further arbitration proceeding for a modification thereof on the ground that since the making of the award the conditions with respect to the theatres involved therein

(*Continued on page* 6)

FIRST N.Y. SHOWING AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HA

GARY sup
TERESA a

"Casanov

The Greatest Romantic Comedy of All Time



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COOPER WRIGHT

...a Brown"

Directed by SAM WOOD

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production

with

Frank Morgan · Anita Louise

PATRICIA COLLINGE · Edmond Breon · Jill Esmond

Produced and written for the screen by Nunnally Johnson

From a play by Floyd Dell and Thomas Mitchell

Proudly Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES

Production Up 4 Over Last Week to 49

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7. — Production activity increased last week as 12 new pictures were started and eight were completed. Total number of features in work was 49, as compared to 45 the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Eve Knew Her Apples."
Started: "Phantom Outlaws," with Charles Starrett, Jean Stevens, Tex Harding, Walter "Dub" Taylor.
Shooting: "Dormant Account" (Darmour), "Tonight and Every Night," Untitled Dunne-Boyer.

M-G-M

Started: "Autum Fever," with Mary Astor, Philip Dorn, Felix Bressart, Gloria Grahame; "Dr. Red Adams," with Lionel Barrymore, Van Johnson, Marilyn Maxwell; "The Clock," with Judy Garland, Robert Walker and Cume Cronyn.
Shooting: "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "Ziegfeld Follies," "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Monogram

Started: "They Shall Have Faith," with Gale Storm, Sir Aubrey Smith, Mary Boland, Frank Craven, Johnny Mack Brown, Johnny Downs, Conrad Nagel, Leo Diamond and his Harmonaires; "Frontier Frame-up," with Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, Ralph Lewis, Beatrice Grey.
Shooting: "Little Devils," Ghost of Indian Springs," "Army Wives."

PRC

Finished: "I'm from Arkansas."
Started: "Here We Go Again," with Frank Jenks, Robin Raymond, Ray Walker, Jack LaRue.
Shooting: "I Accuse My Parents," "The Town Went Wild."

Paramount

Finished: "A Medal for Benny."
Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World," "Here Come the Waves."

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Falcon in Hollywood," "Nevada."
Started: Pan-Americana," with Philip Terry, Audrey Long, Eve Arden, Betty Jane Greer.
Shooting: "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Isle of the Dead," "Experiment Perilous," "Betrayal from the East," "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "Brazil."
Started: "Lake Placid Serenade," with Vera Hruba Ralston, Vera Vague, William Frawley, Eugene Pallette; "Faces in the Fog," with Jane Withers.
Shooting: "Flame of Barbary Coast."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn."
Shooting: "Nob Hill," "Sunday Dinner for a Sildier," "Winged Victory," "Thunderhead."

United Artists

Finished: "Tomorrow the World" (Cowan).
Shooting: "The Great John L" (Crosby); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Started: "Mike Goes to a Party," with Gloria Jean, Kirby Grant, Milburn Stone; "Renegades of the Rio Grande," with Rod Cameron, Fuzzy Knight, Eddie Dew, Ray Whitley, Jennifer Holt.
Shooting: "Queen of the Nile," "Can't Help Singing," "The Mummy's Curse."

Warner

Shooting: "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

The Text of Government's Consent Decree Proposals

(Continued from page 3)

have so changed as to warrant modification, and in the event that the arbitrator finds that there has been such change, he shall make a redetermination of the maximum clearance.

"Nothing contained in this section and no award hereafter entered in an arbitration in accordance with its provisions shall apply to licensing the exhibition of any special feature, providing such special feature is licensed under an exhibition contract applicable only thereto, or the right of a distributor defendant to include in such contract and to make a part thereof such special terms and conditions, including such special clearance provision or provisions as such distributor shall fix, establish and enforce for and in connection with the exhibition of such special feature.

Sections 9 and 10

"(5) Plaintiff prays that Section IX and X of the decree be stricken therefrom and the following section be substituted therefor: "No distributor defendant shall license or make available for exhibition in theatres any films released by it upon terms which have the effect of unreasonably restraining competition between two or more theatres in exhibiting said films. Controversies arising on a complaint by any exhibitor thereby affected that a distributor has so licensed or made available such films for exhibition in the complainant's theatre or in a theatre competing with his theatres shall be subject to arbitration in accordance with the terms of this decree. If the arbitrator finds that this section has been violated, he shall make an award which will describe the specific course of conduct found by him to violate this section and require the payment of an amount by such defendant or defendants as he finds have engaged in such conduct which in his judgment will compensate the complainant for any pecuniary loss sustained as the result of such violation or violations and discourage the recurrence of such violations.

(6) Plaintiff prays that Section XI of said decree be stricken therefrom and the following section substituted therefor:

"(A) No decree defendant shall hereafter acquire, directly or indirectly, any financial interest in any theatre.

"(B) Each decree defendant which is directly or indirectly engaged in the production, distribution and exhibition of films shall within three years from the date of this modification completely divorce its exhibition business from its production and distribution business to the end that no defendant directly or indirectly engaged in producing or distributing films shall then own any financial interest in theatres, and no defendant directly or indirectly engaged in operating theatres shall then own any interest in the production or distribution of films.

"(C) Each decree defendant directly or indirectly engaged in operating theatres shall within such time and upon such terms as the court may deem reasonable divest itself of such theatre interests as the court may in the course of supplemental proceedings hereunder, find shall be divested in order to insure theatre operating competition in the communities where they are now monopolizing theatre operation.

Pooling Voided

"(D) All of the theatre-operating agreements, implied or expressed, by which any two or more of the decree defendants share in the financial benefits from the operation of theatres jointly owned or controlled by any two or more of them are hereby declared void, and each decree defendant is enjoined from entering into or enforcing any similar agreements.

"(7) Plaintiff prays that section XII of the decree may be stricken therefrom.

(Section 12 is the "escape clause" of the decree, setting forth conditions under which consenting companies could be automatically relieved of compliance with some or all of its provisions.)

"(8) Plaintiff prays that Section XV of the decree may be stricken therefrom and the following section substituted therefor:

"All franchises and any licenses entered into pursuant thereto by any of the decree defendants are hereby declared illegal and void and the said defendants are hereby enjoined from making or enforcing any similar agreements.

Eliminate Section 17

"(9) Plaintiff prays that Section XVII of the decree may be stricken therefrom and the following section substituted therefor:

"No distributor defendant shall license its films to any affiliated theatre upon the terms which unreasonably restrain the ability of an unaffiliated theatre to compete with such affiliated theatre.

"(10) Plaintiff prays that Section XX of the decree may be stricken therefrom.

"(11) Also Section XXI.

"Signed by Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General; Francis Biddle, Attorney General; Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, and James B. M. McNally, U. S. Attorney."

(Sections 20 and 21 of the decree relate to limiting features of some of its provisions, such as the three-year trial period which expired last Nov. 20.)

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 7

UNIVERSAL will start six feature productions during August. The first one, "Mike Goes to a Party," starring Gloria Jean, with Kirby Grant, Milburn Stone, Edward Brophy and Jacqueline De Witt in the supporting cast, is already under way. The next to get the green light will be "Arsene Lupin," with George Korvin, J. Carroll Naish, Gale Sondergaard and George Dolenz. Others to come include "Musical Roundup," a period western with music, "Swingaroo Sweetheart," which will have Judy Clark in the comedy lead, "Swing Out, Sister," and "Jungle Captive."

•

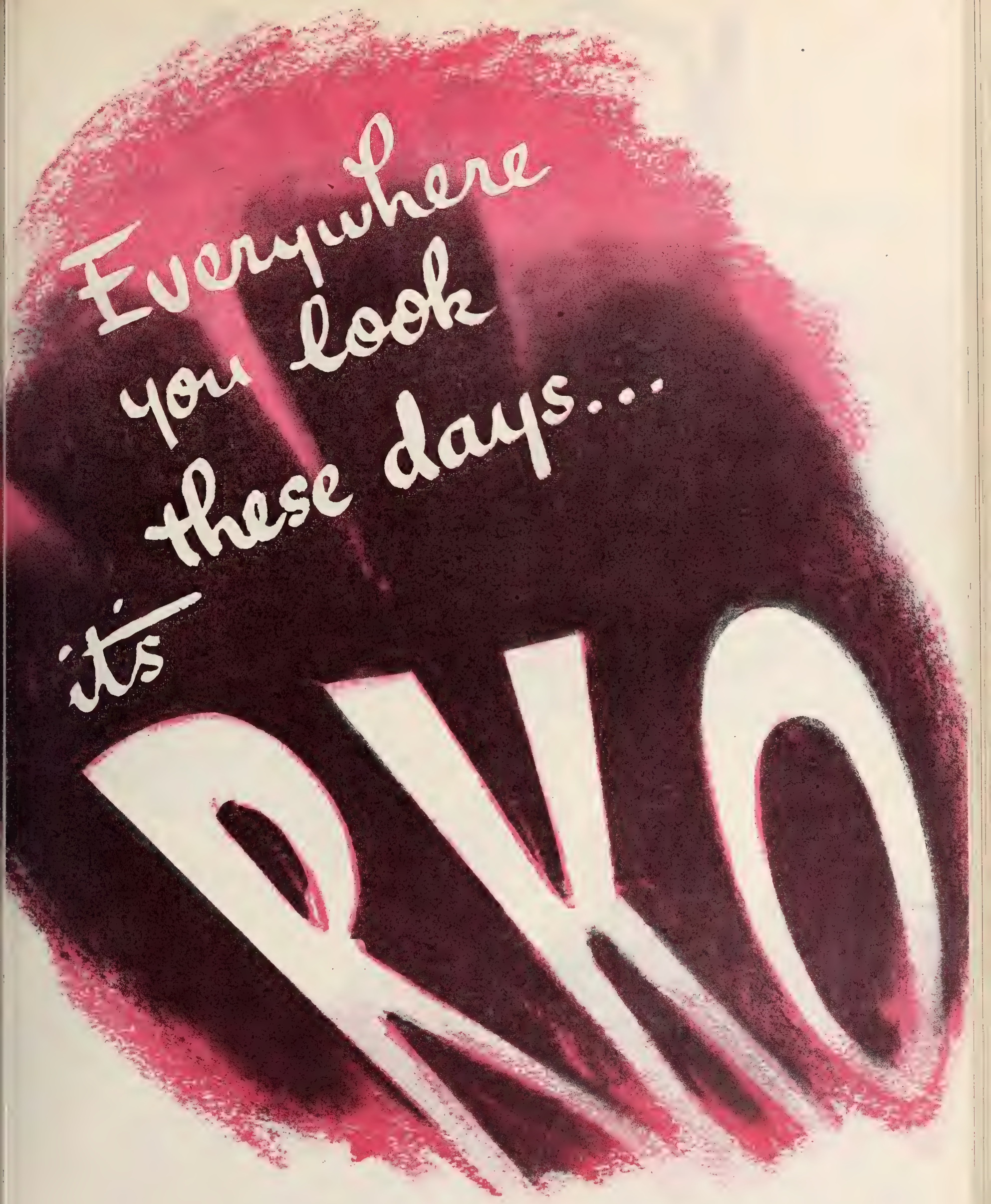
"Phantom of Wild Valley" has been chosen as the title of the first Buster Crabbe-Al St. John western of PRC's 1944-45 series. Sigmund Neufeld will produce it, and Sam Newfield will direct. . . . William Goetz of International Pictures has borrowed Michael O'Shea from Hunt Stromberg for the male lead opposite Sonja Henie in "It's a Pleasure," Technicolor musical being directed by William A. Seiter and produced by David Lewis. . . . Gwen Kenyon has been signed for the leading feminine part in "The Case of the Missing Medico," first of the Monogram "Cisco Kid" series, which will star Duncan Renaldo. . . . Jackie Paley has had her contract extended by 20th Century-Fox. Her next assignment is "Claudia and David," which William Perlberg will produce.

•

Lillian Gish is being tested for the role of Miss Susie Slagle in Paramount's forthcoming production of that name. . . . Marc Platt, who was the featured dancer in the original cast of "Oklahoma!" on Broadway before being signed by Columbia, has had his contract extended by that studio. . . . Phyllis Brooks has been borrowed from Paramount by Producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas to co-star with Robert Lowery in "Dangerous Passage." . . . Audrey Totter, young stage and radio actress, will make her screen debut in an important role in "The Clock," Judy Garland starrer currently in work at M-G-M.

•

Roland Varno, Eric Hansen, Henry Victor and Howard Johnson have been added to the cast of "Betrayal from the East" at RKO Radio. . . . Cecil Kellaway, the Australian actor, has been signed by Paramount for another year. . . . Henry Morgan has been cast for an important part in M-G-M's "Gentle Annie," a tale of the wild Oklahoma territory of 1900. . . . Janet Scott has been added to the cast of David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . Henry Levin will direct "Tonight We Dance" for Columbia. . . . Lionel Barrymore is set for the part of Greer Garson's father in M-G-M's "Valley of Decision," an adaptation of Marcia Davenport's best-selling novel. . . . Walter Lantz has eight of his "Cartunes" in preparation—an all-time high for the producer. They will be released through Universal. . . . Virginia Gilmore returns to the screen in Samuel Goldwyn's Technicolor comedy, "The Wonder Man," which stars Danny Kaye.



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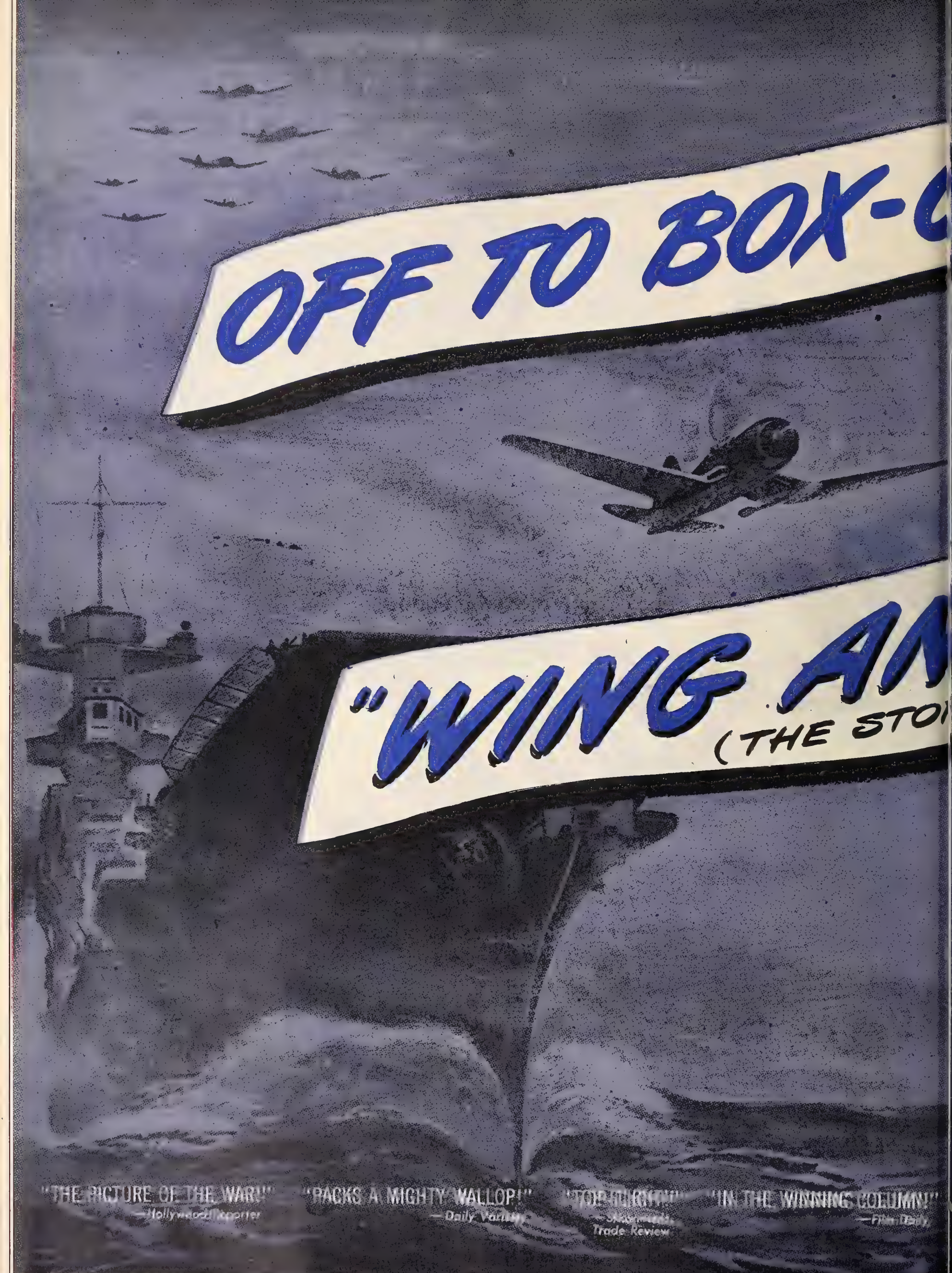
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"PACKS A MIGHTY WALLOP!"
—Daily Variety
"TOP FLIGHT!"
—Showmen's Trade Review
"IN THE WINNING COLUMN!"
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(FOR X)

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CHARLES BICKFORD · SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE

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Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY

Produced by WILLIAM A. BACHER and WALTER MOROSCO

..lots of box-office action too from "Home in Indiana"—"The Song of Bernadette"—"Pin Up Girl"—"The Eve of St. Mark"—all from

20th CENTURY-FOX

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

Reviews

Marked Trails
(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Aug. 7

THIS Hoot Gibson-Bob Steele western is unusual in that its heroine played by Veda Ann Borg, has a good deal more to do than usually falls to the lot of the girl in a gun-and-pony saga.

The screenplay by J. P. McCarthy and Victor Hammond presents the young lady as the feminine half of a pair of crooks, who specialize in stagecoach-holdups and knifings. Bob Steele is drawn into the story when his uncle, a U. S. marshal, is killed. Disguised as a desperado, and abetted by Hoot in the masquerade of a speech-making citizen, the cowboy gets to the bottom of the sinister goings-on in the town of Tracy. The criminal pair are exposed, and pay for their misdeeds.

Others in the cast include Mauritz Hugo, Steve Clark, Charles Stevens, Ralph Lewis, Lynton Brent and Bud Osborne. William Strohbach supervised the picture, and J. P. McCarthy directed.

Running time, 59 minutes. "G."* Release date, August 15, 1944.

THALIA BELL

Oh, What a Night!
(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Aug. 7

THIS Scott R. Dunlap production provides thoroughly enjoyable entertainment, presented in light-hearted, fast-moving fashion by Director William Beaudine. Edmund Lowe, as a jewel-thief with a past, is suitably suave, and Jean Parker provides the romantic interest. Marjorie Rambeau's interpretation of a burlesque queen who struck it rich highlights the picture with comedy.

The screenplay by Paul Gerard Smith from a story by Marion Orth presents a number of internationally known jewel-thieves, working independently of each other, who arrive at a resort hotel, each with the intention of stealing a famous diamond owned by one of the guests. Complications are rapid, involving not only the real diamond but a number of imitations. The finish sees Lowe sailing into the sunset, not quite a reformed character, but having proved, at least, that there is honor among thieves.

Trem Carr was the executive director. Others in the cast include the late Alan Dinehart, Pierre Watkin, Claire DuBrey, Ivan Lebedeff and Olaf Hytten.

Running time, 72 minutes. "G."* Release date, September 2.

T. B.

"Valley of Vengeance"
(*PRC*)

Hollywood, Aug. 7

A WESTERN that lives up to the standard set by the capable team of Sigmund Neufeld, producer, and Sam Newfield, director. It presents Buster Crabbe and Al (Fuzzy) St. John in a drama of daring, deviltry and dynamite.

The story, by Joseph O'Donnell, concerns the attempt of the two cowboys to discover and punish the perpetrators of a wagon-train massacre and robbery in which their respective parents were killed. By the skilful use of Buster's flying fists, and an explosive perfected by Fuzzy, the pair force a confession from the renegades responsible for the crime, and the ends of justice are served.

Evelyn Finley proves herself a competent actress and a skilful markswoman. Others in the cast include Donald Mayo, David Polonsky, Glenn Strange, Charles King, John Merton, Lynton Brent and Jack Ingram.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G". T. B.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Service Center Started

ST. JOHN, N. B., Aug. 7. — Construction of a servicemen's recreation center on a site donated by Famous Players Canadian Corp. is now under way here. The center will continue to operate after the war's end. Construction of a new theatre on the property will probably begin about a year after the Armistice.

To Film Socialites

BAR HARBOR, Me., Aug. 7.—Negotiations have begun here for prospective filming of local "socialites at play" at the sports and recreational facilities in this area. William McNulty, former sports and recreation director for the residents and vacationists, will handle commentary and assist in compiling material for the project.



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September



ADVANCE COPY

JENNIFER JONES
BY PAUL HESSE

Elsa Maxwell names the women
HOLLYWOOD MEN PREFER

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Will present

Treasure for September

Story Highlights

Deanna's in Love ..... *Janet Bentley* 29
You Wouldn't Know Alice Faye! ..... *Louella O. Parsons* 30
Hollywood Men Prefer— ..... *Elsa Maxwell* 32
Thank You, Irene Dunne ..... *Adela Rogers St. Johns* 34
Naturally—Lena Horne ..... *Elliot Paul* 38
Perennial Pidgeon ..... *John Chapman* 40
That's Hollywood for You! ..... *Sidney Skolsky* 42
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Bringing Up Jim Brown ..... *Eleanor Harris* 59
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Your problems answered by Claudette Colbert
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Priority on Paradise ..... *Helen Louise Walker* 65
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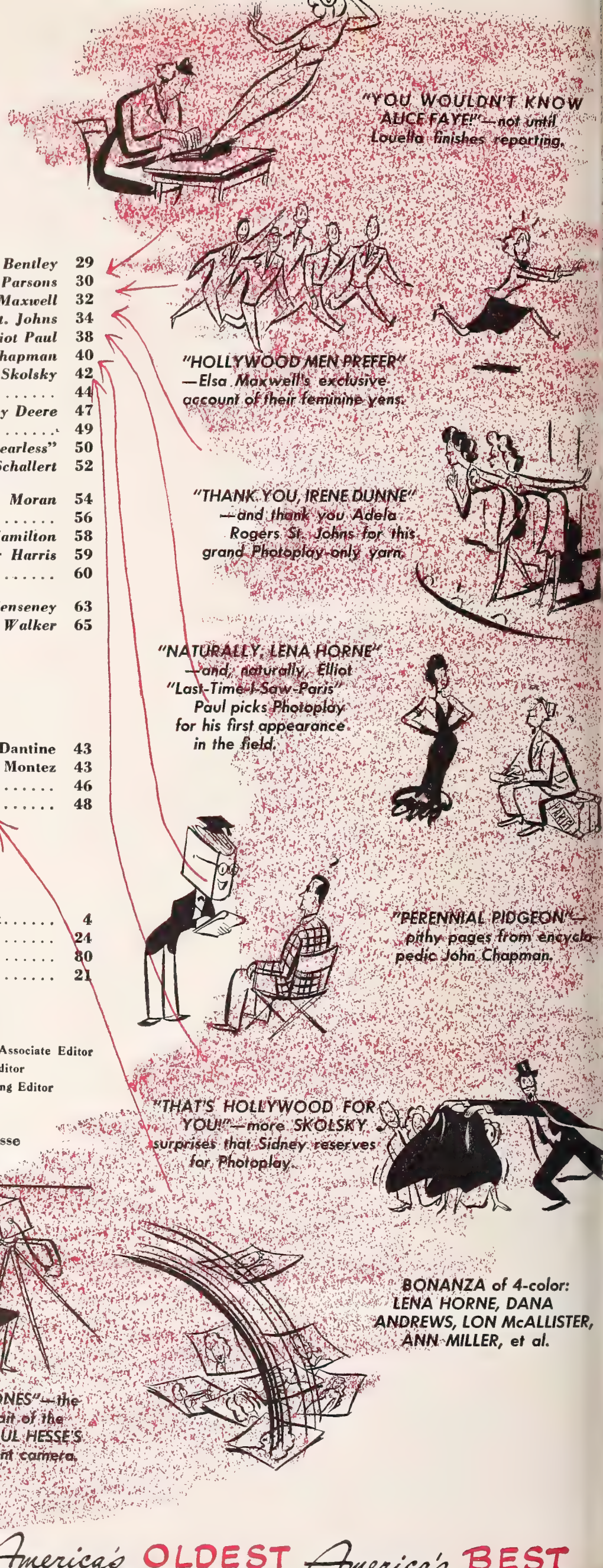
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BONANZA of 4-color: LENA HORNE, DANA ANDREWS, LON McALLISTER, ANN MILLER, et al.

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AND STOPPERS BY STAFF—crackling flashes and features crowd Photoplay with news that has the box-office touch—makes it:

Berlin Cites 'Army' Earnings for AER

(Continued from page 1)

ices, where over 250,000 soldiers and ivilians paid some $330,000 into the British service charities to see the lay, Berlin said that the play was fforded a better reception than the lm, which was playing the film ouses at the same time.

The film, "This Is the Army," is xpected to give AER another $2,000,-00 before it has completed its run, Berlin pointed out in explaining that is soldier-show has supplied over 10,000,000 to AER since it opened on Broadway over two years ago. Dur-ng the course of the interview, Ber-in sang a new song he has composed nd dedicated to the men of the in-antry. It is called "There Are No Wings on a Fox Hole." Speaking bout his old tunes, he revealed that e received frequent requests to sing he tunes from the RKO Radio film, Top Hat," from the Italian populace. Berlin expects to rejoin the show in he next theatre of operations for vhich it is bound.

Rust Buys Dallas Mono. Franchise

(Continued from page 1)

Chicago on Aug. 10. No replacement ias been made for Rust at Republic s yet, but Merritt Davis, Southern istrict manager of Republic, will ar-ive in Dallas from Atlanta Aug. 14 o confer with Rust on his successor. Rust is retailing his stock in the arent organization which was not in-luded in the Dallas transaction.

Lloyd Rust Buys Blumenthal's Interest in Monogram

Los Angeles, Aug. 7.—E. Blumen-hal sold a half-interest in the Mono-ram Dallas franchise to Lloyd Rust, ormer manager of the Republic Ex-hange who will manage the Dallas eadquarters.

11,000 Responses on WB Education Drive

More than 11,000 responses from chools, libraries and community or-ganizations have been received by Warners as a result of brochures and ther promotion materials sent out in onnection with "The Adventures of Mark Twain" and "The Mask of Dimitrios" as part of the activities of he educational bureau recently estab-ished under Mort Blumenstock at the ome office.

Organizations cooperating include he National Education Association of he U. S., American Library Associa-ion, National Council for Social Studies, Education section of the J. S. Treasury Department, National Council of Teachers of English, Good Housekeeping Woman's Club Serv-ce and the Civic Education League.

Government's Move Taken Under Terms Of Consent Decree

(Continued from page 1)

produce evidence to substantiate its requests for modification of the various provisions of the decree and the five consenting companies will have full opportunity to answer this evidence before the courts rule on the Government's request for these decree modifications.

None of the consenting companies would hazard a guess as to when the hearings would start. In the light of the Government's motion of which they have received copies, they can prepare their side of the case in certain respects, but the main court action will come when the Government attorneys present their evidence at the hearings.

Negotiated a Year

Legal opinion in the trade pointed out that since the Government's action reverts to conditions that were alleged to have existed before the consent decree was entered into by the five consenting companies, it is possible that the provisions sought in the modifications of the decree might apply to the "little three"; Universal, United Artists and Columbia; as far as the prohibition on block booking is concerned. It was also seen possible that the Government might even proceed against Monogram and PRC to make all companies sell pictures individually.

It was also pointed out by the attorneys that the provisions sought by the Government to effect divorcement of producing from theatre interests and eventually to break up the circuits of the five companies might eventually lead to such a move against all circuits, which the Government would move against as "enjoying unfair advantages and stifling competition."

May Affect Little 3

Negotiations between the five consenting companies and the Department of Justice for a new consent decree started over a year ago. After hearing the demands of the various exhibitor organizations, U. S. Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark obtained a draft of the distributor proposals for a new consent decree on Jan. 20. The five companies modified these proposals slightly in their final proposals which went to the Department of Justice late in June, but about two weeks ago Attorney General Francis Biddle held that the distributors' voluntary proposals were "unaccpetable." He did not communicate this information directly to the companies in a formal meeting, as far as can be ascertained, but instead, the Department of Justice moved suddenly yesterday and filed its petition for modification of the decree in the courts here.

W. Berge Replaces Clark on Decree

(Continued from page 1)

Thurman Arnold, who negotiated the original decree, kept the motion picture negotiations when he and Berge, then chief of the criminal division, switched jobs last August.

When Clark relinquished the anti-trust division, he retained the decree negotiations because of his familiarity with the situation and the relations he had established with the companies. The film unit, under Robert L. Wright, also stayed with Clark, but continued to be carried as part of the anti-trust division.

A Department spokesman explained that the court action automatically came under the anti-trust division and that, as a result of the abandonment of the negotiations, Clark was no longer in the picture.

Record Heat Fails To Hurt Grosses

(Continued from page 1)

its third week. The show, which runs almost three and one-half hours with Gene Krupa and his band on the stage, is getting capacity business. The second week's gross was $86,600.

With $73,000 recorded on the first four days of the third week, "Dragon Seed" and a stage show is headed for $121,000 at the Radio City Music Hall. Here again the show runs over three hours.

"Janie" is headed for $50,000 on its first week at the Strand with Tommy Tucker and his band on the stage. Weekend business was $24,200 for three days. The third and final week of "And the Angels Sing" is expected to give the Paramount about $54,-000. "Hail the Conquering Hero" and a stage show headed by Vaughn Monroe and his band will open at the Paramount tomorrow.

UA Holds Foreign Sales Meet Today

(Continued from page 1)

Victor Schochet, Peru; Jorge Suarez, Chile; Henry Weiner, Cuba, and Guy C. Smith, Canal Zone.

Members of the home office foreign department who will atatend, in addition to Gould, are: Tom Mulrooney, Harry Schroeder, Samuel Cohen, Len Daly, Walter Liebler, Earl Denison, Harry Goldsmith, Howard Fessenden, Thomas Healey, H. Vandensteen, Alfredo Ayulo and John Reilly.

A luncheon preceding the business session will also be attended by Edward C. Raftery, preseident of United Artists; Paul O'Brien, of the company's legal staff; the following producers' representatives: Neil Agnew, B. P. Schulberg, Lowell Calvert, Harry Kosiner, Henry Brash, Seymour Poe, Maybelle Oldenhage, David (Skip) Weshner, Ed Peskay, Budd Rogers, Archie Mayers, Harry Archinal, William Levy and members of the trade press.

First 5th Loan Sales Are $327,974,309

(Continued from page 1)

reporting into size, stating that they represented about 25 per cent of the total.

O'Donnell has been repeatedly forced to request exhibitors to file their reports so that final tabulations may be made and the industry's immense contribution to the drive be recognized.

UA Hosts Sports Writers

Representatives of United Artists were hosts to a group of sports writers at dinner last night in the Latin Quarter, in connection with Bing Crosby's first production venture, "The Great John L."

POSTPONEMENT OF TRADE SHOWS

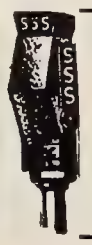
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(Previously announced for August 10th in all M-G-M Branch Office Cities)

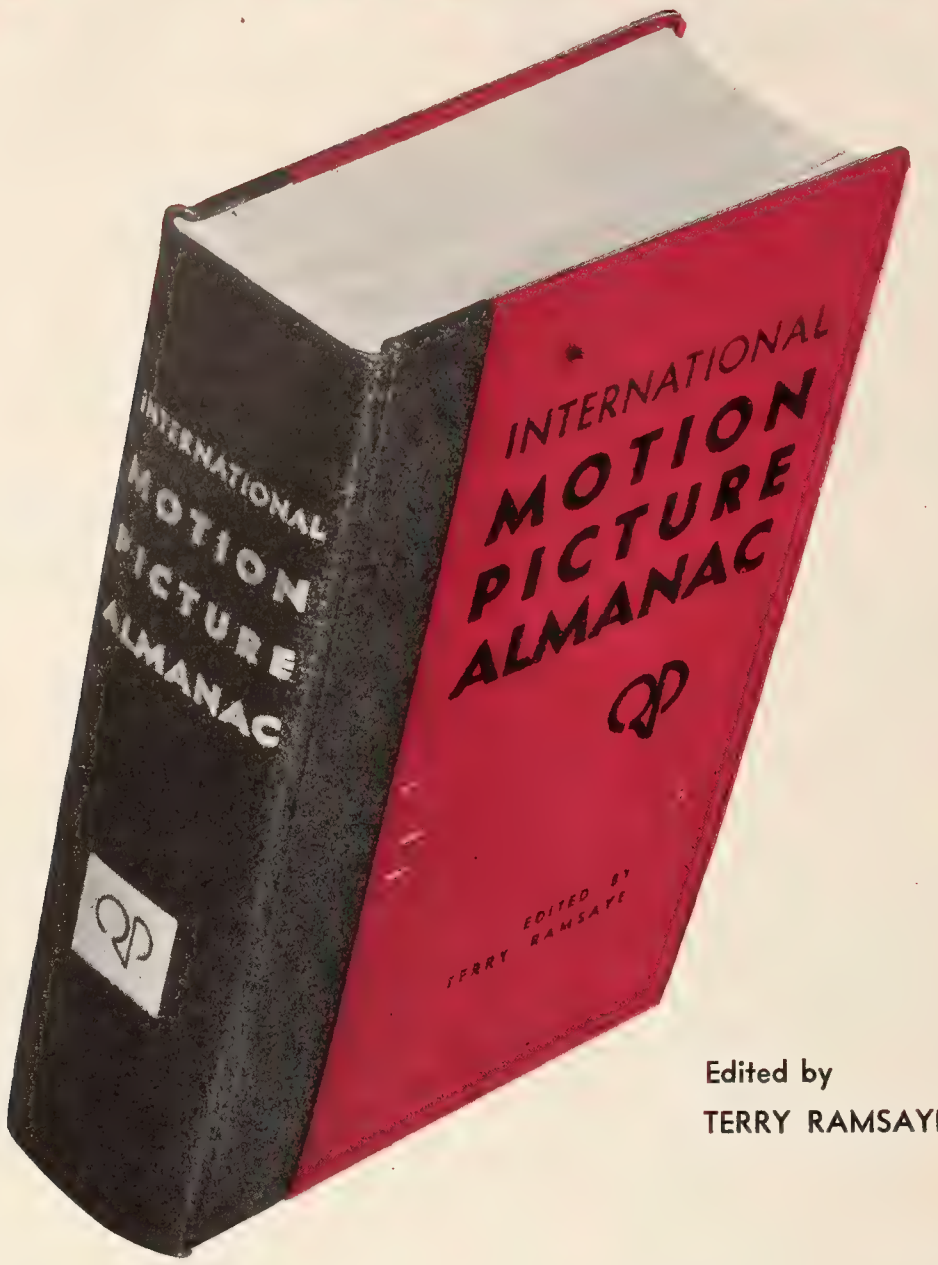
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QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
ROCKEFELLER CENTER NEW YORK (20)

Boston Grosses Wilt In Grip of Heat

BOSTON, Aug. 7.—The heat wave slowed down business tremendously the past week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 10:

'Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox) Plus stage show with Sammy Kay
BOSTON—(3,200) (50c-65c-$1.10) Gross: $28,000. (Average: $30,300).

'Dr. Wassell" (Para.) 7 days, 2nd week.
FENWAY — (1,373) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,300).

'The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox) 7 days. 14th week.
MAJESTIC — (1,500) ($1.10 all shows) Gross: $5,000. (Average: past 14 weeks $18,700).

'The Eve of St. Marks" (20th-Fox) 'Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,000).

'Once Upon a Time" (Col.) and 'The Stars Parade" (Col.)
ORPHEUM — (3,200) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,800).

'The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para) 7 days, 2nd week.
PARAMOUNT — (1,700) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $17,000).

'Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
STATE — (3,200) (44c-55c-65c-74c) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000).

'The Ghost Ship" (RKO) 'Underground Guerillas" (Col.)
TRANS LUX—(990) (30c-56c-74) Gross: $5,600. (Average: $6,500).

'Skeffington' Takes $22,000 in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Aug. 7.—Business continues to feel the effects of extreme hot weather. Out front is "Mr. Skeffington" which opened to $22,000 at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 10:

'Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. Average: $17,000).

'Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000).

'Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000).

'Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,000)

'A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) days. Stage Show: George White's 'Scandals." Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500).

'Stagecoach" (UA)
Mayfair—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,000).

'They Made Me a Criminal" (WB)
VALENCIA—(1,400) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).

Rites Tomorrow for Sulzer of Kodak

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 7. — Funeral services will be held Wednesday for Albert F. Sulzer, 65, vice-chairman of the board of directors of the Eastman Kodak Co., who died Sunday at his home here. Coming to Rochester on graduation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1901, Sulzer started at Kodak as an assistant chemist. Successively he was superintendent of the chemical plant, general superintendent of film manufacture, and assistant manager and manager of Kodak Park. He became general manager of the company in 1941, nine years after becoming a director, and was named vice-chairman of the board late last year. He is survived by his widow and mother.



Mexicans Crowd U.S. In Latin-America

That Spanish-language films, especially Mexican, are more and more bidding for first-run playing time in Latin-American countries, with a consequent decline in playing time accorded American product, was the consensus of three United Artists foreign managers in an interview at the home office yesterday.

"No question about it, but Mexican films are doing sensational business," said Joe Goltz, UA's Mexican manager. However, they are making more customers, too, for American films, according to Goltz, who pointed out that many Mexicans were acquiring the film habit for the first time and then turning to American product, too.

Goltz said Mexico City had experienced a theatre boom in the last two years, with 10 houses having gone up in that time. Mexican playing time in first-runs now equalled American films, he said. Repeat business in Mexico was very important with successful pictures being sent back to houses every six or nine months. Important factors in the success of Mexican products in that country were the aid being furnished to the native industry by the U. S. and the prevalent prosperity.

Open Own Offices

Goltz revealed that the Mexicans were capitalizing on the popularity of their films in Latin-America by opening their own offices in various countries.

Henry Weiner, the dean of Latin-American managers, having been with UA 24 years, admitted that Mexican pictures were crowding American product out of some first-run houses in Havana, going into theatres previously reserved for U. S. films. Building has been retarded in that country, Weiner said, because of the high cost of construction.

Jorge Suarez, the company's manager in Chile, stated that American companies faced stern competition from Spanish-language product. He pointed out that American films, which normally consumed 75-80 per cent of the first-run playing time, were now down to 45-50 per cent, with Mexican and Argentine product equally benefiting. Quality, however, was still the determining factor of a film's success in that country.

Decision Pending on Moss-Leblang Case

Decision in the suit brought by Leblang-Gray's, Inc., theatre ticket brokers, against License Commissioner Paul Moss, was waived temporarily by Supreme Court Justice George Frankenthaler at the weekend. The agency seeks to force Moss to lift the license suspension imposed by him for alleged overcharges.

Paul M. Bryan Dies

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 7.—Paul M. Bryan, 69, producer of early topical pictures, died here at the weekend. Bryan produced "Reel Life," a magazine reel, at the Gaumont Studios at Flushing, N. Y. He was associated with several film companies after World War I and in 1923 became head of Universal's scenario department.

Surviving are his widow, two brothers, a sister, a son and a grandson.



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with

NINA FOCH · STEPHEN CRANE
OSA MASSEN · BLANCHE YURKA · BARTON MacLANE
Screen Play by Griffin Jay and Charles O'Neal
Produced by WALLACE MacDONALD · Directed by HENRY LEVIN



COLUMBIA'S

The SOUL OF A MONSTER

with

ROSE HOBART · GEORGE MACREADY
JIM BANNON · JEANNE BATES · ERIK ROLF
Original Screen Play by Edward Dein
Produced by TED RICHMOND · Directed by WILL JASON

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 27 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1944 TEN CENTS

Longman Will Leave OCR Section Post

Regard Step as Ending New Theatre Program

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Donald L. Longman, chief of the service trades division of the Office of Civilian Requirements since the amusements and recreation section was formed in July, 1943, was reported tonight as preparing to leave the agency.

Longman's reported resignation is another repercussion of the controversy over the OCR theatre-construction program, which last month influenced George W. McMurphey, chief of the amusements section, to relinquish his position after William Y. Elliott, War Production Board vice-chairman for civilian requirements, told the industry that few new houses would be constructed and that the main objective of the section would be to assure continued operation through the war period of theatres now in existence.

With the leaving of the two men most interested in the effort to pro-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Silverstone Calls for United Film Policy

Murray Silverstone, 20th-Fox vice-president of foreign distribution, announced yesterday that he would present a plan of united action to all companies for an industry solution of problems encountered in the Latin-American market upon his return from a two-month survey in that area. In making his announcement at a luncheon for the trade press at the Hotel Plaza, Silverstone said that his company will initiate a policy of ex-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Fox to Make Tour of Country This Month

William Fox's projected tour of the country to look over possible exchange sites for the new producing-distributing company he has in mind, will be made late this month. The former head of Fox Film Corp. still plans ultimately a worldwide distribution system, with territorial product franchises given to exhibitors who buy stock in his enterprise.

Powers to 20th-Fox Legal Post; Jenkins Continues as Sect'y

William T. Powers, National Theatres executive since 1932 and prior to that associated with Paramount, has been appointed home office attorney of 20th Century-Fox, succeeding Felix A. Jenkins, it was announced yesterday by Spyros F. Skouras, president. Jenkins, who has been with the company since 1928, will continue as secretary and will perform other executive duties.

Powers has been rumored as a possible successor to Larry Kent, executive assistant to Skouras. Kent will take up his new assignment for 20th-Fox as managing director of Gaumont-British Theatres in London sometime next month.

Film Classics Buys 11 Roach Films

The long pending deal between Hal Roach and Film Classics for the reissue rights to 11 feature pictures and some 350 short subjects previously released by M-G-M has been closed, it was learned here yesterday. Details of the deal worked out between George A. Hirliman, president of Film Classics, and Grace Rosenfield, Eastern representative for Roach, provides for Film Classics to acquire world distribution rights for seven years to these films. Roach received a substantial guarantee against a percentage and as a result both Roach and Film

(*Continued on page 3*)

PCCITO Commends Action of Biddle

Los Angeles, Aug. 8.—The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners today issued a statement hailing Attorney General Biddle's decree action of yesterday as "an assurance to independents that their fight for justice is being upheld. PCCITO is gratified that the Department of Justice has acted so forcibly to uphold the Sherman Anti-Trust Act by applying it to correct the many monopolistic practices in favor of affiliated circuits and detrimental to independent exhibitors," the statement concluded.

UA Contracts for Bronston's Output

The United Artists board of directors yesterday approved contracts by which the company will distribute an unspecified number of pictures for the new Samuel Bronston production organization.

UA listed the first three productions, which it is said will be delivered by Bronston during the first half of the 1944-45 season. They are: "Decision," from the recent Broadway stage play, directed by Julien Duvivier, with filming to begin Oct. 1 on the Samuel Goldwyn lot; "Ten Little Indians," from the current play, Rene Clair producing and directing, production to start Nov. 1; and "Borrowed

(*Continued on page 3*)

Import Levies May Force Industry to Quit Spain

By CHARLES RYWECK

As a result of new import duties imposed by the Spanish Cortes on Aug. 3, which amount in some cases to an increase of from $90 to $20,000 per film, American companies may find it impossible to continue business in Spain, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned yesterday.

So sweeping were the increases that John W. Hicks, Paramount vice-president and foreign manager, characterized them as "confiscatory." These new imposts may make "it impossible to do business in that country," he said.

In addition to these drastic increases, other taxes are levied on film imports for subsidization of the Spanish film industry; for dubbing of American product, and for import licenses. The subsidy tax, in effect since 1941, amounts to $7,000 in some categories. The tax on dubbing, which is in addition to dubbing production costs, amounts to about $2,000 per film. The cost of import licenses, which are only available to Spaniards, is as much as $20,000 per film, depending on the price currently asked.

If American companies continue to operate under conditions imposed by the new taxes, they will be left with little or no profit, according to one executive, and may establish a prece-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Decree Court Trial Seen By Washington

Company Counsel Meet in N. Y. to Map Strategy

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Filing by the Department of Justice yesterday in New York of a motion to amend the consent decree was represented here today as a move anticipatory of a complete court trial of the issues involved.

A spokesman for the Department likened the motion to an application for a temporary injunction, restraining the respondent from performing certain acts during the period required for a judicial determination of their legality. In this instance, he indicated, the Department acted to prevent any possible expansion of circuits, eliminate certain booking practices and bring about an improvement in arbitration.

The procedure resorted to by the government was not new, it was said, but has been used in many instances where similar situations have existed. The next step is expected to be a mo-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Crescent Enlarges Scope of Charter

NASHVILLE, Aug. 8.—An amendment to the original charter of the Crescent Amusement Co., filed with the Secretary of State, greatly enlarges upon its provisions for operation and for the purchase and disposition of its property holding, particularly having a bearing upon the disposition of its holdings in the affiliated corporations which must be made to meet the terms of last year's U. S. District Court decision of a violation of the Sherman

(*Continued on page 6*)

Republic, Executives In WPB Suit by U. S.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 8. — Republic Pictures and four executives were charged with violations of the War Production Board's regulations in criminal information filed today in the Federal Court by Assistant United States Attorney William R. Ritzi.

The complaint, first of its kind, sets forth that the WPB rejected the application for permission to erect an $145,000 sound stage, but later grant-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists vice-president, is expected back from London within a week.

•

MORRIS STEIN, Eastern general manager of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., has been forced to undergo a second major operation within four months at the Toronto General Hospital.

•

ROBERT NISENSON, manager of Warner's Nixon Theatre, Philadelphia, is recuperating from a major operation at the University Hospital.

•

BEN BLUMBERG, head of the National Theatre Supply Co., Philadelphia, is in Mt. Sinai Hospital following an attack of pneumonia.

•

LES KAUFMAN, director of publicity and advertising for Fanchon and Marco in St. Louis, is spending his vacation in Hollywood.

•

WALTER DYER, Universal booker, has returned to Boston after a temporary assignment at the company's Philadelphia office.

•

BERNIE KAMBER, director of United Artists' special events department, returned yesterday from Chicago.

•

MARK HELLINGER, Warner producer, and MRS. HELLINGER, have arrived from the Coast.

Universal, Blue in Joint Talent Hunt

The Blue Network show, "On Stage, Everybody," will be the title of a picture to be made by Universal, it was announced here yesterday by representatives of the Blue, which inaugurated the program 30 weeks ago to give professional vaudeville and concert performers a chance to appear on the radio.

The show will continue to offer professional talent this opportunity and at the same time will provide a chance for the players to receive film contracts. Officials of the Blue and Universal stated that this would be the first time the resources of radio and screen have combined to discover new actors.

A committee of judges consisting of representatives of both companies will select the 10 most talented performers who appear on the program from September 2 for a period of 26 weeks, and will award them with a contract to appear in the picture.

Lou Goldberg, producer of the radio show, will head the committee and serve as associate producer of the film, which will be put in production around March 1. Other judges will be Charles C. Barry, Eastern program manager of the Blue, and Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising director of Universal.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, August 8

NORMALLY, Hollywood basks in the dazzlings of its contemporary victories. Matters nearest to it at the moment commonly capture its loving attention. To wit: The picture which is now in the throes, or the attraction which opened yesterday at the Music Hall. Long-range viewing is something else again.

Yet, the seriousness of these times even in the face of a lush cycle such as the industry has never enjoyed previously is turning some thinking and some eyes toward the post-war period.

■

Because no one can foretell with accuracy what the peacetime future holds in its indefinable hands, theories become guesswork; and anyone can guess. This establishes a sort of road paver for a number of viewpoints. Including:

The belief—practically a conviction with its adherents of which we are one—that a recessional is inevitable once consumer goods begin to re-invade the maraket. The demand for automobiles, radios, refrigerators, for instance, will be tremendous as everyone knows.

How far-reaching a recessional is another matter. How serious in relationship to prewar grosses is still another. There are some who are not blind enough to expect that the peacetime business curve will match off the wartime curve. Nor do they believe the industry has the right to build future policy on any such expectancies.

■

There are others who subscribe magnificently to the belief that this nation will enter upon a golden age of prosperity such as, perhaps, it has never experienced in its economic history once the figurative sword once again becomes a plowshare. The rehabilitation of the devastated and occupied countries, they insist and as many believe, will be up to the United States. They foresee an era of industrialization for the Far West and this whole, vast Pacific seaboard a giant springboard for the export of capital goods and other kinds of goods to the Far East.

They scan the available evidences of the Government's postwar planning in equations of a thousand millions for new housing, of new airfields and of new ribbons of transcontinental speedways as expanded outlets for labor and expanded methods of creating better living conditions. They conclude these are among the factors which will keep unemployment down and box offices happy.

If there is any interest in where we stand, we think so, too.

■

Sketchy as perforce this is, in capsule form these several thoughts are an accurate reflection of some of Hollywood's more serious thought processes. Despite whatever rises or dips may develop in the economic graphings of the reconstruction era, nowhere is there discernible any serious misgivings about the days ahead. Much is expected from the foreign market—much revenue and much difficulty in the form of quotas and governmental restrictions of one coloration or another. But the broad pattern—the long-range view is tinged on all sides with an abounding confidence.

It looks as if motion pictures are really here to stay.

■ ■

Portrait of a Producer: He is flat on his back, which has nothing to do with his financial position. From the divan in his office with all lights blazing, Venetian blinds drawn tightly against the blinding California sunshine and windows clamped tightly, he says:

"Look. How can we go wrong with that picture? All right the star got $150,000. The feminine lead got another $100,000. The director—well, we'll give him $150,000. That makes it $400,000. The associate producer is in on a split arrangement, so you can't figure out his end until the end. Studio overhead, story and production costs—well, maybe they spent $1,200,000. So what!

"It's a little picture at that kind of money."

■ ■

International's private dining room dishes out food as good as any in town and better than practically all. This gastronomic truth set Bob Goldstein pondering on the involvements of cause and effect, finally persuaded him to this conclusion:

That Bill Goetz first hired the chef and built his producing organization around the lord of the kitchen. All of this with reason, according to Goldstein. He calculates that, if the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, producers have hearts also.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug.

STARTING with the new seaso "Merrie Melodies" and "Loon Tunes," acquired by Warners fr Leon Schlesinger, will be call Warner Brothers Comedies.

•

Denis Green has been signed Hunt Stromberg to a three-way a ing, writing and directing contra Green's first script will be "This Life," based on the life of a famo restaurateur.

•

G. L. Carrington, president of Alt Service Corp., has returned to his o fice here after spending three wee at his New York office.

•

Columbia gave Whitney Bolton two year contract.

•

Universal bought "Accidental Hero an original by returned soldier Ric ard Gerson. Gene Lewis produces.

•

Taylor Mills, Stanton Griffis' a sistant, entrains tomorrow.

•

Samuel Bronston bought "Borrowe Night," forthcoming novel about com pulsory service in Nazi Army fo Lewis Milestone's first productio which starts in October.

•

Charles Reed Jones remains a fort night to work out inter-office coordi nation.

Croft Gets Canadian Film Control Post

TORONTO, Aug. 8.—J. R. Croft ha been named permanent administrato of services in the Canadian Wartim Prices and Trade Board, with juris diction over the operation of all thea tres and exchanges in the Dominion He succeeds M. W. McCutcheon.

It has been indicated, with the organization of the Board, that government control over theatres wil continue after the War to insure admission price stabilization as well as regulation of priorities and manpower conditions. Croft's deputy will be F. O. Currie.

Kaufman Appointed Republic Publicist

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 8.—Republic vice-president Allen Wilson announced the appointment of J. Lester Kaufman as chief studio publicist effective Aug. 24. Kaufman was with Fanchon & Marco in St. Louis for the past six years, with Paramount in New York, and Balaban & Katz in Chicago prior to that. Larry Woodin continues as assistant to Kaufman.

M. Howell to Goldwyn

Miriam Howell, in charge of the Myron Selznick office here for four years, has resigned, effective at the end of this month. She will join the Samuel Goldwyn office as local talent scout.

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lm Classics Buys l Roach Films

(Continued from page 1)

ssics estimate that the gross might ch as high as $2,000,000.

Emphasis in the deal is placed upon acquisition of "Topper" by Film ssics. The company expects to give film a new advertising and public- campaign and a first-run release on adway early in September. Three the eight Laurel and Hardy films uired by Film Classics in the deal already in release by the com- y. They are "Pack Up Your oubles," "Pardon Us" and "Sons the Desert." M-G-M's distribu- n rights on all the films involved e not yet expired and they will be de available to Film Classics as the tribution contracts expire. Other urel and Hardy films involved in deal are "Our Relations," "Way t West," "Swiss Miss," "Block- ads" and "Bohemian Girl." "Mer- y We Live" and "Kelly, the cond" are the other two feature ns.

tting Film Classics changes in West

Alfred Crown, assistant to George Hirliman, Film Classics president, t yesterday for a trip to Denver d Seattle to negotiate for the estab- hment of Film Classics exchanges those cities, bringing the number such exchanges to 23.

Crown is expected to continue on to ollywood to further investigate ar- ngements for studio space, technical ews and writers to complete the ten- ive production plans of the com- ny.

ongman to Leave CR Section Post

(Continued from page 1)

de additional theatre facilities for ar production centers, it is not be- ved that the OCR hereafter will at- mpt to do anything for the exhibi- n industry beyond securing the pro- uction of equipment needed to keep eatres running, such as seats, car- ts and other furnishings.

Claude Ezell, Dallas exhibitor, is pected shortly to be appointed a ollar-a-year consultant to the amuse- ent section, but his work is expected be confined to advising the OCR theatre maintenance matters rather an to undertake a new drive for ad- tional theatres. Ezell is understood be opposed to any extensive new- ouse program, as are many exhibi- rs who have made their views known the OCR. Following Longman's eparture, it is expected that Ross Villiams, assistant director, will take ver the division pending formal ac- on appointing a new chief.

delman on Rosen Fund

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8. — Meyer delman, head of New Jersey Messen- er Service, film delivery organization, as been named chairman of the Sam- el Rosen Educational Memorial Fund t Beth Israel Synagogue in Camden, J. The project was designed to erpetuate the name of the late branch anager of the local Monogram ex- hange who was president of the syna- ogue.

Washington Sees Trial as Counsel Map Strategy

(Continued from page 1)

tion by Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge to have the court set a date for argument. In view of the fact that the court is not now sitting, it is not anticipated that a hearing can be had before some time next month or in October. In the meantime, the defendants in the case naturally have the right to file their briefs in opposition to the proposed modification of the consent decree.

If the court were to grant the government's motion for amendment of the decree over the objections of the consenting companies, then an appeal of the ruling by the companies would be a certainty and would place the entire case before the courts. On the other hand, the companies under Section 23 of the decree, the section under which the government action is taken, have an equal right to petition the court for the kind of relief which they, too, desire. Their petition might take the form of an order for the vacating of the decree. Should such a petition be granted by the court the government would have no recourse but to bring its original suit on trial or file a new one.

May Hasten Compromise

It is this situation which deprives the government's move of some significance attached to it at first and suggests that it may be maneuver-designed to hasten a compromise settlement.

However, the Department is represented as taking the position that it believes theatre divorcement and the dissolution of large circuits to be of prime importance. All of the other issues which have been raised are of a subsidiary nature since, once the distributors are deprived of their theatres, they would gain no economic advantage by the maintenance of their present selling methods. On the other hand, it is known that the one thing the companies would not consent to voluntarily is divorcement Hence, whether the two viewpoints can be resolved short of a lengthy and conclusive trial is unpredictable.

N. Y. Attorneys Discuss Dept. of Justice Move

Counsel for the five consent decree companies met here yesterday to discuss the Department of Justice's application for modification of the consent decree. Discussion was limited to interpretations of what the sudden move implies. A further meeting has been set for next Tuesday and in the meantime the distributors will devote further time to study of the Government's application.

In mapping strategy, it is understood that several courses are open to the companies. In view of the fact that the Department of Justice merely filed an application for modification of the decree without asking a date for a hearing, it is possible for the Department to have action on its application deferred indefinitely.

The filing of an application for modification of a consent decree without setting a date for the hearing on the application is understood to be a new procedure in the New York Federal district court but it has been done before in other districts. Had the Justice Department sought an immediate hearing on its application, it is understood that it would have been heard by any judge available at the time, but in all likelihood the application would have been referred to Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard, who signed the original decree.

Judge Goddard on Vacation

It was learned yesterday that Judge Goddard is not expected back from vacation until regular sessions of court begin here Oct. 2.

It was pointed out that the companies can seek to have the present decree vacated by an application to the court and perhaps force the Department either to prosecute its anti-trust suit here or file a new action. Present indications are that the companies will not make any move until the Department takes further action.

Trade speculation turned to the possible effect on Columbia, United Artists and Universal of a successful government effort to have films sold individually. These three were named defendants in the New York anti-trust suit and never entered into a consent decree. It is understood that at least one of these companies is determined to resist any attempt by the Justice Department to force the selling of pictures individually even if it means going to court. Conjecture also turned to what action the Department might take against Monogram, Republic and PRC to compel them to sell films individually should the initial effort succeeed. It is felt that the insistence of the Department on single picture selling might be resisted even more by exhibitors than by distributors. In addition, many see in the department's move for dissolution of circuits and their buyer power a distinct threat to all large circuits whether affiliated or independent.

UA Contracts for Bronston's Output

(Continued from page 1)

Night," from a *Cosmopolitan Magazine* story, Lewis J. Milestone producing and directing, production to begin before Dec. 1.

The projected deal for UA distribution of some of J. Arthur Rank's product, which Gradwell L. Sears is discussing in London, is not yet in readiness for submission to the board, so no action was taken upon it yesterday. It has been learned, however, that Sears has applied for passage back to New York from London.

UA Expands in Boston

BOSTON, Aug. 8.—Republic Pictures has taken over offices formerly occupied by National Screen Supply on Piedmont Street here. Following complete renovations of the present Republic quarters at 52 Church St. United Artists will move in thereby taking over the whole building for its New England headquarters. That company's district manager, James Winn, and branch manager John Dervin will host exhibitors and members of the press at a reception upon opening of the enlarged offices.

Silverstone Calls for United Film Policy

(Continued from page 1)

hibiting only its important product in Latin America which, he said, it plans to implement immediately. One of the objects of his trip will be to set plans for the advanced-price showing of "Wilson" and "Song of Bernadette," with super-imposed Spanish titles, to be launched with an appropriate advertising budget.

Silverstone will leave Friday and expects to contact exhibitors and the local public as to the film requirements of the 21 Latin-American republics. Stressing that the industry stands at the crossroads in Latin-America, he declared that the companies must work together to retain and broaden their present markets. The industry, he said, should initiate a common policy on such problems as dubbing, etc., otherwise it might find its markets slip from its grasp.

All information collected will be placed at the disposition of the various companies, said Silverstone, as to how best to exploit the lucrative market in Latin-America. Emphasizing that a world market was necessary to recoup the high negative cost, with a profit, of Hollywood productions, 20th-Fox's foreign sales head stated that "Wilson" could only be made because of that foreign market.

Industry May Be Forced from Spain

(Continued from page 1)

dent which would prove short-sighted, as other governments might be impelled to follow the example of the Spanish government.

Reisman Explains 'Goyescas' Deal

With the sanction of the State Department and the Office of War Information, RKO Radio arranged to exhibit in Spain 19 of its films, in return for which it obtained the rights to distribute the Spanish film "Goyescas," Phil Reisman, company foreign distribution vice-president, stated yesterday in explaining the background of the deal.

Reisman cited the lack of political propaganda in the film and its approval by various Governmental agencies, including the FBI and the U. S. Censor's Office.

Republic, Executives In WPB Suit by U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

ed permission for construction of a $23,000 temporary stage for use in producing Army propaganda and training films. The complaint further asserts that the studio proceeded to build a $57,000 permanent stage without permission.

Republic executives named are H. J. Glick, secretary-treasurer; C. L. Lootens, production manager; J. Scott, administrative assistant and I. W. Yates, purchasing agent. The maximum penalty would be one year imprisonment, $10,000 fine or both.

Commenting on the WPB charges against several executives, a spokesman for Republic today said, "We know nothing about it."



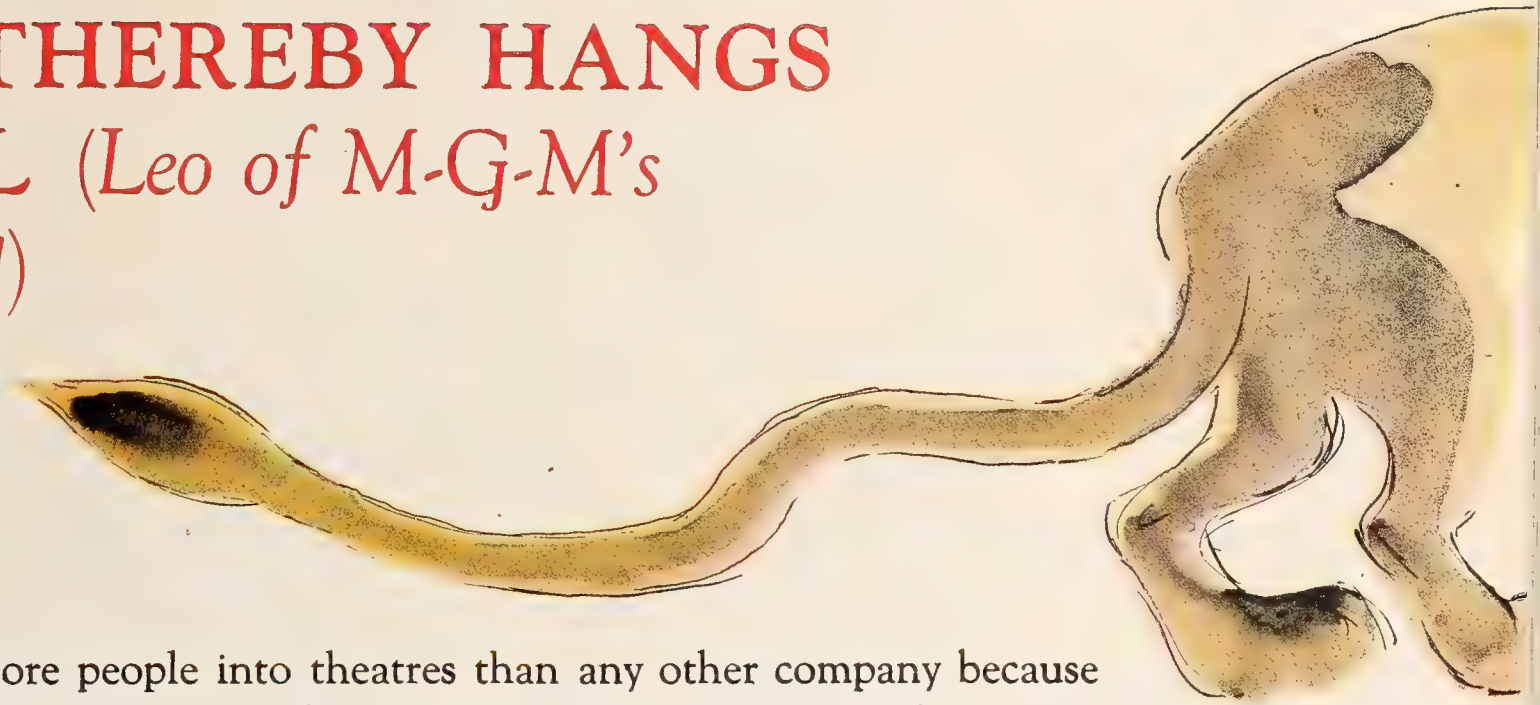
THE STORY OF TWO BEAUTIES AND THE DRAGON—

Once upon a time on that magical street called Broadway were two gay entertainers whose talents and charms were undeniable. But their pretty hearts beat loud and fast because nearby was the dragon, a mighty creature with such powers of

(Continued)

fascination for people that the two lovely things feared they would be woefully neglected. But lo and behold, no matter how great were the throngs that crowded in to watch the mighty dragon perform, there were countless other thousands who sought out the two beauties.

AND THEREBY HANGS A TAIL *(Leo of M-G-M's naturally!)*



M-G-M packs more people into theatres than any other company because its wise showmen provide a wider range of entertainment in their great product. For instance, like that which holds the Broadway spotlight:

"DRAGON SEED" the mightiest dramatic spectacle of our time with a wonderful new role for Katharine Hepburn, is breaking M-G-M records at Radio City Music Hall.

"BATHING BEAUTY" the Technicolor Big Show of Girls, Laughs and Music, is in its 7th great week at the Astor and a sensation nationwide.

"THE CANTERVILLE GHOST" convulses Broadway at the Globe where M-G-M's darling Margaret O'Brien zooms to stardom. It's beating "Salute To The Marines" booming business.

MORAL: You've got to be good to be a leader for twenty years!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

Keep Selling Bonds!

Strike, Heat Dent Philadelphia Take; 'Dragon Seed' Tops

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—The continuation of the city transportation strike to the week-end, coupled with the continuation of the heat-wave; plus the predominance of hold-overs and second runs, makes for light business in the downtown district. "Dragon Seed," the only major opening of the week, leads the field at the Boyd, pointing to $24,300, plus $3,400 for the Sunday dual showing at the Earle.

Estimated takings for the week ending August 9-11:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $14,600).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 3rd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,300. (Average: $18,000).

"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox) (6 days)
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE — (3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Boyd Raeburn's orchestra, Willie Howard, Al Kelly, Jane Pickens, The Four Creedons, Don D'Arcy, Margie Wood & Johnny Bothwell. Gross: $23,100. (Average: $27,600).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $20,500).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $6,600).

"Show Business" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $22,500).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $20,000).

"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $9,400).

Eckman Will Oppose Government Control

The belief that the recent recommendation of the British Films Council Monopoly Committee for a participating government tribunal means government control of the British film industry was expressed by Sam Eckman, M-G-M managing director for Britain, in a statement released by the home office yesterday. Eckman added that he intends to oppose the monopoly report "as affirmatively as I possibly can."

The statement revealed that Sir Alexander Korda was selected for membership on the new Films Council as a producers' representative and that Eckman was not invited to continue serving on the Council as a distributors' representative because the Board of Trade thought it undesirable to have two members associated with the same company.

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Review

"Greenwich Village"

(20th Century-Fox)

WILLIAM LEBARON has assembled another lavish and stunning Technicolor musical film for 20th Century-Fox in "Greenwich Village." Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda, William Bendix and Vivian Blaine, a newcomer, are featured in this backstage tale of New York's famous Bohemian quarter in the early 1920's. It is a film certain to ring the bell for record grosses since it possesses all the elements which make for wide appeal to the customers.

The story which represents the combined efforts of Earl Baldwin and Walter Bullock who did the screen play; Michael Fessier and Ernest S. Pagano who wrote the adaptation; and Frederick Hazlitt Brennan who is credited with the original story; has a familiar ring to it. Ameche is a naive composer who comes to New York from his home in the midwest armed with his life's savings and intent upon getting a performance for his piano concerto. He gets mixed up in Greenwich Village with Bendix, who owns one of the speakeasies and has a yen to produce a play on Broadway; Miss Miranda, one of the entertainers at the speakeasy and Miss Blaine, whom Bendix intends to star in his show. There are the usual complications with Ameche being duped by Felix Bressart before the show is produced to provide his concerto with its initial performance. Bendix is enamoured of Miss Blaine but Ameche finally wins out with her, with Miss Miranda supplying comedy in the background.

Leo Robin and Nacio Herb Brown have written a trio of new songs for the film and generous use has been made of the old favorites. Ameche's concerto is built around the old favorite "Whispering" which receives considerable attention. "Give Me a Band and a Bandana" is destined for Hit Parade honors and "It's All For Art's Sake" provides the background for an eye-filling costume ball number set in lush Technicolor that provides another high mark for the beauty of the medium.

Miss Blaine is impressive in her debut in the role of the sweet young singing star of Bendix's club and contemplated show. She has an appealing voice, is a delight to behold and is definitely a screen personality for whom 20th-Fox appears to have plans. Under Walter Lang's smooth direction, Miss Miranda delivers one of the best performances of her career in every department. Accent in the action is on the fast and funny side with the romance between Ameche and Miss Blaine remaining secondary. Specialties by Tony and Sally DeMarco, the Revuers and the Four Step Brothers lend added appeal. Seymour Felix staged the dances and Leon Shamroy and Harry Jackson handled the lenses.

Running time, 83 minutes. "G."* To be released in Sept. in Block Two.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Jacocks Buys House; Appoints Seletsky

Don Jacocks, who resigned as Warners Bros. Theatres Newark zone manager last month when he acquired five theatres of the Levenson circuit in Brookline and Quincy, Mass., which he is operating, has also acquired the Strand Theatre in Rockland, Mass., from Leo Rhodenizer, who is retiring after 34 years in the theatre business, accordings to Jacocks.

Jacocks has appointed Sam Seletsky, formerly branch manager for Republic in Boston, as a booker for the theatres he has acquired. Seletsky has resigned his Republic post after serving first as a salesman in the New England territory for Republic, then as the company's branch manager in New Haven, New York and finally Boston.

Kogod on Welfare Board

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Fred Kogod, head of the Kogod-Burka circuit, operating the Apex, Atlas, Senator and Princess Theatres here, was recently named to the Board of Public Welfare here.

29 Stars Overseas In July for HVC

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 8.—The Hollywood Victory Committee report for July, issued yesterday, indicated that 29 performers went overseas on USO camp tours; 25 visited Army and Naval Hospitals in 27 states in the U. S., and other performers made 421 appearances on 46 camp shows, while 157 appeared for bond rallies, charity and relief benefits.

The July report brought the HVC total to 30,604 performances by 3,239 players in 7,628 events since Pearl Harbor. The appointments by Edward Arnold, Howard Estabrook, Adolph and Clarence Must brought the executive board to a full membership of 40.

Expect SPG Ruling

Details of the arbitration award made in the controversy between the Screen Publicists Guild of New York and the film companies are expected to be announced at the SPG meeting at the Hotel Edison here on Thursday evening.

Crescent Enlarge Scope of Charter

(*Continued from page* 1)

anti-trust law and now on appeal b fore the U. S. Supreme Court Washington.

The original charter, obtained June, 1911, by Tony Sudekum, h father, Henry Sudekum, and brothe Harry Sudekum, provides that: "T incorporation is for the purpose erecting or furnishing a building buildings for the use and occupatio as an opera house, theater, or theater or acquiring by purchase or lea opera houses or theaters, and conduct ing or operating same." Origin capitol stock was $40,000, represent ing the firm's present day investmen in *one* neighborhood theater.

Crescent's Other Activities

Today, one of the most successfu circuits in the country, Crescent own and operates bowling alleys, billiar lounges, and skating rinks as well a theaters. This necessitates provision allowed by the newly amended charte which reads: "The general nature o the business to be transacted by thi corporation shall be to establish an conduct a general amusement enter prise and to furnish amusement t the public. To generally acquire, hold manage and dispose of property o every kind pertaining to such business and to do everything necessary an proper to the conduct of said busi ness."

Crescent Amusement Co. must dispose of approximately 50 percent interest in Cumberland Amusement Co. Muscle Shoals Theaters, Inc., Rockwood Amusements, Inc., Cherokee Amusements, Inc., Kentucky Amusements Company, Inc., Lyric Amusements Company, Inc., within a period of one year after an affirmation of the decision by the Supreme Court, if it is affirmed by that body.

Schaefer's Film to U.A. for Foreign

United Artists has acquired the foreign distribution rights to George J. Schaefer's "Dangerous Journey," the Armand Denis-Leila Roosevelt adventure film, Walter Gould, U. A. foreign manager, told a meeting of the company's Latin American managers which opened at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday. Domestic distribution rights to the film were acquired recently by 20th Century-Fox.

Gould said that the picture, along with a minimum of four Spanish language films and one French picture would supplement U.A.'s new season release schedule in Latin America. Convinced that a world interchange of product is inevitable in the postwar world, Gould emphasized that U.A. intended to meet the competition from native producers, particularly in Mexico and Argentina, by offering them its international distribution facilities, rather than by fighting them.

He told the meeting that plans are under way for the acquisition by U.A. of additional theatres in Central and South America.

Screenings Sept. 11

Warners will trade show "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "The Last Ride" on Monday, Sept. 11.

250 SIMULTANEOUS BOOKINGS!



Welcome Back **YOUR FAVORITE FUN-STARS...**

THEIR FIRST PICTU
THE FUNNIEST OF

BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO



IN SOCIETY

with

ARTHUR TREACHER · MARION HUTTON · KIRBY GRANT

THOMAS GOMEZ · ANNE GILLIS

and WILL OSBORNE AND ORCHESTRA

The Three Sisters: Margie, Bea and Geri

Directed by JEAN YARBROUGH

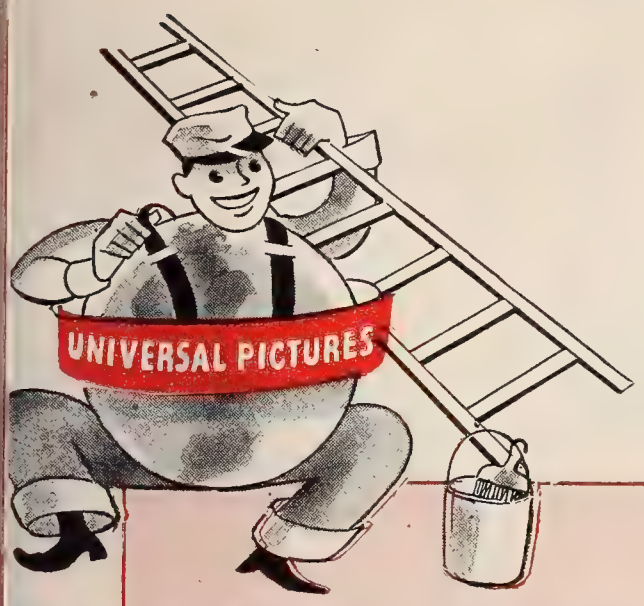
Produced by EDMUND L. HARTMAN







RE IN A YEAR...
THEIR CAREER!



Watch them break their own records in these theatres—some of the 250 who are playing it right on release date Aug. 17th.

R-K-O Memorial, Boston, Mass.
R-K-O Palace, Chicago, Ill.
R-K-O Albee, Cincinnati, O.
R-K-O Palace, Columbus, O.
R-K-O Keiths, Dayton, O.
R-K-O Keiths, Lowell, Mass.
R-K-O Palace, Rochester, N. Y.
R-K-O Keiths, Syracuse, N. Y.
R-K-O Lincoln-Palace, Trenton, N. J.
R-K-O Keiths, Washington, D. C.
Palace, Akron, O.
Strand, Albany, N. Y.
Earle, Allentown, Pa.
Strand, Altoona, Pa.
Plaza, Ashville, N. C.
Hollywood, Atlantic City, N. J.
Keiths, Baltimore, Md.
College, Bethlehem, Pa.
Strand, Binghampton, N. Y.
Lafayette, Buffalo, N. Y.
Ohio, Canton, O.
Hippodrome, Cleveland, O.
Liberty, Cumberland, Md.
Majestic, Dallas, Tex.
Denver-Esquire, Denver, Colo.
State, E. Liverpool, O.
Plaza, El Paso, Tex.
Colonial, Erie, Pa.
Victory, Evansville, Ind.
Emboyd, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
Worth, Ft. Worth, Tex.
Strand, Greensburg, Pa.
Senate, Harrisburg, Pa.
Majestic, Houston, Tex.
Indiana, Indianapolis, Ind.
Cambria, Johnstown, Pa.
Uptown-Esquire-Fairway, Kansas City, Mo.
Capitol, Lancaster, Pa.
Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebr.
Hillstreet-Pantages, Los Angeles, Calif.
Rialto, Lousiville, Ky.
Orpheum, Madison, Wisc.
Malco, Memphis, Tenn.
Lincoln-Miami-Capitol, Miami, Fla.
Warner, Milwaukee, Wisc.
Orpheum, Minneapolis, Minn.
State, New Bedford, Mass.
Roger Sherman, New Haven, Conn.
Criterion, New York, N. Y.
Cataract, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Newport-Colley, Norfolk, Va.
Paramount, Omaha, Nebr.
Fox, Philadelphia, Pa.
Union Square, Pittsfield, Mass.
Civic, Portland, Me.
Majestic, Providence, R. I.
Astor, Reading, Pa.
State, Richmond, Ind.
Byrd-State, Richmond, Va.
Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
Orpheum, Seattle, Wash.
Hollywood, Sioux Falls, S. D.,
Granada, Spokane, Wash.
Roxy, Springfield, Ill.
Gillioz, Springfield, Mo.
Grand, Steubenville, O.
Fox, St. Louis, Mo.
Rivoli, Toledo, O.
Jayhawk, Topeka, Kans.
Troy, Troy, N. Y.
Orpheum, Tulsa, Okla.
Manos, Uniontown, Pa.
Court, Wheeling, W. Va.
Orpheum, Wichita, Kans.
Capitol, Williamsport, Pa.
Warner, Wilmington, Del.
Strand, York, Pa.
Warner, Youngstown, O.

War Bulletin! Have your bond sales figures ready for Fifth War Loan report blank.

"AN EXCELLENT JOB OF PICTURE MAKING...



ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS

TRIGGER
SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

Song of NEVADA

Featuring **DALE EVANS** *and* **MARY LEE**
with **LLOYD CORRIGAN • THURSTON HALL**
BOB NOLAN *and the* **SONS OF THE PIONEERS**

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

"THOROUGHLY ENJOYABLE ENTERTAINMENT"

BOXOFFICE

ong of Nevada F Musical Western

public (—) 75 Minutes Rel. Aug. 5, '44

Here is something for which producers have been angling r a long time—a story which believably blends the ele- ents of modern musicals with those of westerns, without o greatly sacrificing the atmosphere and credibility of the atter. Aside from which point, it's an excellent job of picture making—probably an all-time best for Roy Rogers. The crooning cowboy is given sterling support by Mary Lee and Dale Evans, who supply both music and pulchritude, the Sons of the Pioneers, and Lloyd Corrigan, from whom a considerable comedy content stems. The film boasts plenty of action and spectacle, beautiful natural scenic backgrounds, ample produc- tion values, fine songs and several additional assets. It should prove a popular package of thoroughly enjoyable entertain- ment. Joseph Kane directed.

Roy Rogers, Mary Lee, Dale Evans, Thurston Hall, John Eldredge, Lloyd Corrigan, LeRoy Mason.

BOXOFFICE

"SHOULD HIT THE JACK-POT IN ALL SITUATIONS"

"A well-knit, fast-paced and lav- ishly produced film that should hit the jackpot in all situations. Music- al sequences are well staged and the entire production, which bears an expensive look, has been mas- terfully directed by Joseph Kane." —WEEKLY VARIETY

"ANOTHER WINNER WITH ROGERS"

"Grey does another winner with Rogers . . . refreshing entertainment which promises to set a new standard in western filmusicals. It is lavish, eye-and-ear pleasing, has much real entertainment nicely balanced." —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"AN OUTSTANDING ROY ROGERS CONTRIBUTION"

" 'Song of Nevada' is an outstanding Roy Rogers contribution . . . story progresses logically . . . offers some catchy Western and novelty tunes and strong support by Thurston Hall, Lloyd Corrigan, Dale Evans, and Mary Lee." —MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"A STERLING PRODUCT"

"Republic will put the Roy Rogers fans into the theatres to the last man with 'Song of Nevada.' Associate Producer Grey has worked a sterling product from the raw materials carefully selected for him by Armand Schaefer." —VARIETY

"SHOULD APPEAL TO THE GENERAL AUDIENCE"

"A pleasing blend of story, song, comedy and stagecoach racing which should appeal to the general audience. Songs are many and varied. The original screenplay was an excellent job by Gordon Kahn and Olive Cooper." —MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"PLENTY OF PRODUCTION"

"Given plenty of production, this modern-day musical western has action mixed with romance, song numbers, and a final reprise with added acts . . . a chorus of cuties as elaborate as any musical . . . ace outdoor sets and top photography." —THE EXHIBITOR

MILLIONS WHO SEE IT TODAY...WI
LIVE IT TOMORROW! MILLIONS WH

They Found the Answer to War-Time Marriages

..in the middle of a KISS!



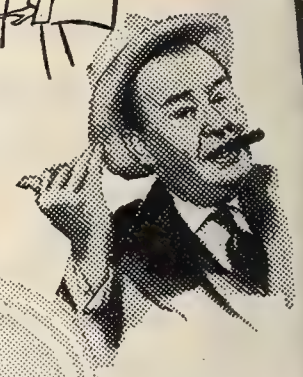
How can you stop laughing...and loving this impatient boy and girl who married on one furlough ...and wanted a divorce on the next one!







It's so tender...so touching... so timely...*and it will happen tomorrow in millions of homes and hearts!*



COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

JEAN ARTHUR

LEE BOWMAN

CHARLES COBURN

in Irving Cummings'

The Impatient Years

with EDGAR BUCHANAN · CHARLEY GRAPEWIN · JANE DARWELL

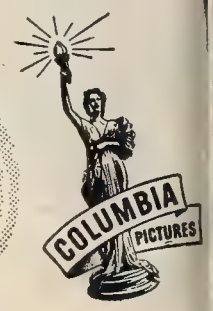
Original Screen Play by VIRGINIA VAN UPP · Produced and Directed by IRVING CUMMINGS

Associate Producer



A PREDICTION

Lee Bowman will kindle a spark in thousands of hearts with his great performance in this picture. Watch all America climb aboard the Bowman bandwagon!



TODAY WILL LIVE IT TOMORROW

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 28 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Minimum of 10 Present Rank Films to UA

Sears Negotiations Are Virtually Concluded

LONDON, Aug. 9.—United Artists will handle American distribution of a minimum of ten of J. Arthur Rank's present British films, it was learned here today as Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, virtually concluded his negotiations with Rank.

The agreement implies that certain of these pictures will be distributed in this country also by UA as part of its British quota, but their precise selection has not yet been mutually decided upon.

The deal calls for UA to continue American distribution for Rank until the exigencies of war permit Eagle-Lion Films, his selling company in the U. S., to set up its own exchange system and start functioning efficiently.

Sears, now awaiting passage back to America, will be accompanied by Dr. Alexander Galperson and Barring-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Mexican Production Halt Seen Over Soon

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—Resumption of film production here, halted for 17 days as a result of an internal conflict in the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, was expected to take place soon, with 32 films in work expected to be rushed to completion.

The halt was broken as the result of the ousting of Enrique Solis, head of the technical section of the union, and the occupation of the three local

(*Continued on page* 8)

WB, MPOE Extend Pact for 30 Days

Warner Bros. and Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL, have extended their contract covering over 600 "white collar" workers employed in the Warner home office for 30 days. The two-year contract would have expired today.

Company and union officials are in negotiations for a new contract, with the company understood to be willing to continue the provisions of the pres-

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Wilson', 'Heavenly Days' Banned for Overseas Showings

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—The War Department today disclosed that it had rejected both 20 Century-Fox's "Wilson" and RKO's "Heavenly Days" as films undesirable for distribution to soldiers overseas under the political ban of the Soldier Vote Act.

The two pictures were the first to run afoul of the political ban, which has barred a number of magazines and books from overseas distribution through Army channels. They were barred by a selection board which passes on all pictures to be distributed abroad over the Army services forces film circuits.

The War Department spokesman did not cite specific instances of political angles on which either rejection was based. Most reviewers comment-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Gould Cites Qualities For Postwar Success

Walter Gould, United Artists' foreign manager, yesterday concluded the company's two-day Latin-American sales meeting here by citing four qualities of leadership, craftsmanship, salesmanship and showmanship as necessary in the postwar to help the industry achieve prosperity.

The foreign managers are being feted by UA producer representatives Lowell Calvert, Henry Brash, Seymour Poe and David (Skip) Weshner during their stay in New York.

WAC Prepares Brief On 'Locally Needed'

The Distributors Division of the War Activities Committee has prepared a brief in furtherance of efforts to have motion picture distribution included on the list of industries that might be designated by the local War Manpower Commission as 'locally needed.' This brief is to be presented to the Essential Activities Committee of the WMC via its chairman, Collis Stocking.

11 Exchange Locals Seek Wage Boosts

Film exchange operations heads have approved applications which will be filed by the IATSE exchange service employes' locals in Boston, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Detroit, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Dallas and New Haven, also by the companies, with the regional War Labor Boards for permission to grant a 10 percent wage increase for exchange film inspectors, poster clerks and shippers. Applications have already been filed with the regional WLB in Chicago and Seattle by the locals in those two cities.

Thus far, exchange service workers' locals in other exchange cities have not indicated any desire to file individually, presumably awaiting a ruling by the WLB in Washington on the appeal taken before the board on behalf of the workers in the Loew's Washington exchange after

(*Continued on page* 8)

Army Sees Films Need for Soldiers in Postwar

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9.—The Army sees a vital need for the industry to continue and enhance its entertainment for soldiers into the demobilization and post-war period, Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, chief, Army Special Service Division, declared today. Thus, the industry for the first time learned that its activities will be requested when the fighting finishes.

"The hard part is not behind, but ahead of us. I am here not only to thank the industry for all it has done so far but to earnestly enlist continued and additional cooperation for the task ahead," Byron stated. "All over the world I have seen the effect of what you people at home have been doing for the fighting men. The industry's contribution has been great, and now that the job is becoming harder and increasingly important, I have come to the source of that great contribution in order to insure a long-range plan which will go when we have a different kind of army in a different time."

Byron stated that entertainment is the greatest factor in soldier's welfare in combat zones, and pointed out that soldiers will need more entertain-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Industry Will Meet WPB 20% Raw Stock Cut

Seek to Avert Cuts in Production, Distribution

Formulae for working out the 20 per cent, 65,000,000 foot, cut in raw film stock allocations to the film industry during the third quarter of 1944 ending Sept. 30 suggested by the War Production Board without affecting current production and release schedules were discussed by representatives of the 11 film companies at a meeting here yesterday.

Progress is reported and it appears that the companies will be able to effect the cut by allocating the 255,000,000 feet of raw stock available this quarter on the basis of the most critical needs of the companies. Representatives of the 11 companies are assembling additional data on their requirements during this quarter and a further meeting has been set for next Monday. The WPB request for curtailment of raw stock use from the customary 320,000,000 feet allocated each quarter to the industry was de-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Seek Exemption In 48-hour Ruling

Distributors are preparing applications to file for exemptions for their film exchanges in Philadelphia from the 48-hour week which has been ordered in that area by the regional War Manpower Commission to take effect for "locally needed" establishments Sept. 1.

Permission to remain on the 40-hour week has been secured from the regional WMC in more than 15 exchange cities where the 48-hour week

(*Continued on page* 8)

Wilcox Sets Deal for 2 a Year for ABPC

LONDON, Aug. 9.—Herbert Wilcox said today that he has concluded a long-term agreement with Max Milder and Eric Lightfoot, joint managing directors of Associated British Picture Corp., to produce two films annually.

The first will be "I Live in Grosvenor Square," not a war story but the diary of an American airman set against the background of the events

(*Continued on page* 8)

Personal Mention

DAVE ROSE, Paramount's British managing director, is expected to return to New York next week from the Coast before proceeding to London.

•

ETHEL MOSS, secretary to CHARLES BAILY, assistant short subject sales manager for Warner Bros., left by plane last night for Des Moines to visit her husband, SGT. PHILIP EDELMAN.

•

ALFRED JERMY of the Warner Bros. studio publicity staff in Hollywood is the father of a boy born over the weekend at Angels Camp, Cal.

•

GEORGE A. HIRLIMAN, president of Film Classics, has returned from St. Louis.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS of Warners Theatres returns today from Philadelphia and New Jersey.

•

HARRY KELLER, Midwest publicity head for Universal, left Chicago for Detroit this week on business.

•

CARL E. MILLIKEN, MPPDA foreign manager, is in Washington.

'Televideo' Planning Its First Program

"Televideo," believed to be the first cooperative production organization to enter the field of Television, is now preparing its first program for presentation in the near future, the home office reported here yesterday.

Members of the organization include Fred Jacobs of Loucks & Norling Films; George Karger, PIX, Inc., Marvin Christenfeld, attorney; Ellen Dahlgren, costume designer; Walter Gibson and Martha Whatmore, writers; Betty Godfrey, J. D. Tarcher Advertising; Leo Kerz, scene designer; Jay H. Smilin, John H. Owen, Inc.; Kenneth Whatmore, J. D. Tarcher Advertising and Morton Gottlieb, writer.

Kentucky Polio Cuts Theatre Attendance

LOUISVILLE, Aug. 9.—The infantile paralysis epidemic is continuing to make inroads into theatre attendance here and throughout the state. With 60 of Kentucky's 120 counties affected to date, the total number of cases has reached 368. Health authorities, reporting more polio every day, anticipate a substantial increase in number of cases before the epidemic is checked.

Bronston, Milestone Host

Producer Samuel Bronston and director Lewis Milestone will entertain members of the trade press at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel this afternoon.

UA Canadian Sales Meet Opens Today

United Artists' Canadian district sales meeting will open today at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, and continue tomorrow, Carl Leserman, general sales manager, announced here this week. A. J. Jeffrey, Canadian sales manager, will preside at the sessions, which will be attended by branch managers and salesmen from Calgary, Montreal, St. John, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

Yesterday a meeting of the company's West Coast sales staff was held at the St. Francis hotel, San Francisco, with J. J. Unger, Western division manager, and W. E. Callaway, district manager, presiding. In attendance were branch managers and salesmen from Denver, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City and San Francisco.

Al Jolson Files Suit Against 20th-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 9.—Al Jolson today told MOTION PICTURE DAILY he has instructed Attorney Mendel Silberberg to file suit against 20th Century-Fox for using in "Take It or Leave It", without his consent, a scene from "Rose of Washington Square" showing him singing. Jolson said "Rose of Washington Square" was made for Fox on a one-picture deal under contract which did not convey to the studio the right to insert portions of the production in other pictures. He also pointed out exhibition of "Take It or Leave It" with him in it conflicts with the forthcoming "Rhapsody in Blue", in which he appears, and with the Columbia production he is now preparing.

Jolson said the principle involved is more important than money which could accrue from the suit, and announced he would donate the latter to charity.

Trezio, Bennett Ask Plagiarism Damages

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9.—Jack Trczio and Chuck Bennett filed suit in the Federal Court today asking $100,000 each from RKO Frank Sinatra, Jimmy McHugh, Robbins Music Company and several John Does, for alleged plagiarism of their composition, "You Are Mine to Love", in "Music Stopped". The complaint also asks accounting of the profits from "Higher and Higher" in which the song was used.

Czechs Get 24 Houses

The Slovak film company Nastup reported recently that 24 motion picture theatres were opened in Czechoslovakia in 1943, making a total of 272 film houses in that country. Feature films imported during that year totaled 120 of which 82 were German productions. Natsup produced eight documentaries for home consumption and 156 were imported. Of the 156 104 were German made.

O. Censors Cut 11

COLUMBUS, Aug. 9.—Ohio censors ordered eliminations in 11 out of 76 films reviewed during July.

First Cameraman Back from France

Neil Sullivan, RKO Pathe newsreel cameraman, first to return from the invasion front, in an interview yesterday described the difficulties encountered in shooting footage in the hedgerows of Normandy. Sullivan went in with the second invasion wave which ran smack into a German infantry division conducting maneuvers on the beach.

The Pathe cameraman explained that the fighting was hot and of a type that nullified taking pictures, that it was often impossible to secure good footage. Sullivan revealed that the troops in France were shown feature films five miles behind the front lines. The Army Psychological Warfare Board has induced many Germans to surrender, he said, by appealing to them through loud speakers.

The invasion troops have expressed a distaste for war shots in newsreels because they have been personal participants in many of the shots shown, and preferred pictures of familiar home scenes.

Rehearing Ordered In Col. Injunction

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9.—Superior Court Judge E. H. Wilson today denied Columbia Pictures an injunction restraining Charles Coburn from acting in 20th Century-Fox's "Czarina" before completing his appearance in the studio's untitled Dunne-Boyer picture now shooting. The conflict in the shooting schedules brought about Columbia's action, the studio asserting the unavailability of Coburn would cost the company $1,000,000.

Late in the afternoon Judge Wilson vacated the decision and set re-hearing arguments for Friday.

Complaint Asks That Product Be Given

M. P. Poovey, operator of the Marsilla Theatre, Rockingham, N. C., has filed an arbitration complaint against RKO and Warners, the American Arbitration Association reported yesterday.

The complaint, filed in the Charlotte, N. C., tribunal, asks that a contract giving him product be granted immediately. The Hannah Pickett Theatre, Rockingham, was named as an interested party.

New WB Shorts Label

Beginning with the 1944-'45 release schedule next month all Warner animated short comedies, formerly known as "Merrie Melodies" and "Looney Tunes" will be called Warner Bros. Cartoons, it was reported yesterday by Norman H. Moray, short subjects sales manager. Change in label followed the resignation of Leon Schlesinger, who sold out due to ill health. The subjects will be made by a new WB unit set up by Jack L. Warner.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug.

WALT DISNEY is dubbing "Sa udos Amigos" in German, anti ipating the postwar market. It will l followed by "Fantasia."

•

Columbia today elevated Abby Be lin from the post of assistant directc to a directorship. His first assignme will be the next "Blondie" pictur still untitled.

•

Warners announced that "Jani Meets the Marines" will be th sequel to "Janie." Joyce Reynold will again handle the title role.

•

20th-Fox added "Ladies at Large to its schedule. Ben Silvey will prc duce it. The studio also extende Louis D. Lighton's contract one yea

•

Paramount borrowed Raoul Wals from Warners to direct "Salt O'Rourke." E. D. Leshin will pro duce it.

•

Ned Depinet and Robert Mochri will leave here Saturday for Nev York.

•

Republic gave George "Gabby" Hayes a new term contract.

Thomas Breen Loses Leg in Action

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 9.—Thoma Breen, youngest son of Joseph I Breen, director of the Productio Code Administration, was seriously in jured in action with the Marine Corp in the South Pacific, according t word received here by his family to day. His injuries necessitated amputation of the right leg, and he alsc sustained shrapnel wounds in his lef side.

Hunt Heads USO Drive

WILDWOOD, N. J., Aug. 9.—William C. Hunt, president of Hunt's Theatres, Inc., has been named county chairman of the USO drive here, to be staged in October. Hunt was chairman of the Wildwood territory in the Fifth War Loan and was responsible for the sale of approximately $1,000,000 in bonds. He recently announced himself as candidate for state senator.

Women Staff Village

SOMERS POINT, N. J., Aug. 9.—The Village Theatre here has become the second house in the Southern New Jersey territory to be totally staffed by women, with the addition of Mrs. Grace D. Hawn as projectionist. Mrs. Marjorie Vail McCone is manager. William C. Hunt's Blaker's Theatre reopened last month with an all feminine staff.

5-Year Lease on Fox

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9.—Warners have renewed their lease on the first-run Fox Theatre here for a five-year period.

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WE COULD FILL A BOOK ABOUT "DOUGH-GIRLS" BUT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO

THIS ⇉ DOUGHGIRLS IS DOUGH FROM WARNERS!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS!
FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

Atlas $1,245,847 Para., 20th-Fox Holdings Are Sold

Disposal of 49,983 shares of Paramount common stock, valued at $1,187,097 as of Dec. 31, 1943, and 2,000 shares of 20th Century-Fox $1.50 cumulative convertible preferred, valued at $57,760, representing the entire holdings of Atlas Corp. in those companies, was disclosed in the company's financial statement for the six months ended June 30.

This leaves Atlas holdings of film stocks limited entirely to RKO and Walt Disney Prod. The portfolio schedule shows 1,329,020 shares of RKO common, valued June 30 at $13,290,200, and 327,812 RKO option warrants, valued at $573,671 also 22,850 shares of Disney six-percent cumulative preferred, worth $354,175. The company's investment, incidentally, in Columbia Broadcasting System Series "A" common amounts to 31,000 shares totalling $1,015,875, and in CBS Series "B" common, 3,500 shares totalling $112,437.

As previously reported, the sales during the six-month period included that of 57,337 shares of RKO preferred, which went to a banking group June 5 for $5,045,056. Floyd B. Odlum, president, in a letter to the stockholders, noted that this was the largest disposal during the half year. The total sales, Odlum added, increased the company's holdings of cash and U. S. Government securities from approximately $10,313,000 on Dec. 31, 1943, to approximately $23,066,000.

During the six months the indicated asset value of the common stock rose $2.11 per share to $21.12. Net income for the period was $2,208,075.

Burkhardt Rewarded For Ohio's Drive

CLEVELAND, Aug. 9. — Howard Burkhardt, manager of Loew's State here, who was responsible for bond sales totalling $1,010,000, was recently awarded a plaque by the Treasury Department and the title of "Ohio's best bond salesman in the Fifth War Loan Drive." Burkhardt's total bond sales for two years are now five and one-half million dollars. Presentation of the award was made at a dinner in the Carter Hotel, with Loew's theatres district manager Charles Raymond.

The final report of Northern Ohio's bond drive indicated that 82 straight bond premieres, 82 children's premieres and 292 "Free Movie" days were held. In the Fourth War Loan campaign there were 79 premieres, 198 "Free Movie Days" and no children's premieres.

Ohio Bond Sales Show $91,100,724 Increase

CINCINNATTI, Aug. 9.—Total sales in the Fifth War Loan drive in Cincinnati and Hamilton County amounted to $21,193,724, $91,100,724 over the Fourth War Loan returns. 'E' bond sales totalled $21,249,318 or 95.33 percent of the quota.

Sales in the Southern Ohio area, comprising 22 counties were well over the quota of $204,013,000, with bond sales equalling $324,524,491.

Review

"In Society"

(Universal)

MARKING the return of Bud Abbott and Lou Costello to the screen after an absence of more than a year due to Costello's illness, "In Society" is a hilarious slapstick comedy which is fashioned in the same popular entertainment groove of its predecessors, featuring the zany antics of the pair. It should bring top grosses if the reaction of the audience at Loew's Orpheum in New York, where the film was given a "sneak" preview, is any barometer of the type of reception it will be afforded. The audience howled with delight throughout, and the film easily shapes up as one of the funniest which the pair have made.

Lending assistance in this Edmund L. Hartman production are Marion Hutton, Kirby Grant, Arthur Treacher, Thomas Gomez, Anne Gillis and Will Osborne and his orchestra. Abbott and Costello are plumbers in this film. The loosely-contrived screen play by John Grant, Hartman and Hal Fimberg from an original story by Hugh Wedlock, Jr. and Howard Snyder serves expeditiously to embroil them in society. Under Jean Yarbrough's neatly-paced direction, the action is fast and furious and Abbott and Costello cavort first in a swanky bathroom during a fancy dress ball and then as uninvited guests at a weekend party at a fashionable estate, all in an effort to bolster their plumbing business. As a female taxi driver and a friend of the boys, Miss Hutton is afforded a go at romance with Grant and an opportunity to sing several pleasant songs, but the romance is a secondary feature of the film. Considerable footage is devoted to a rather hectic chase wherein the boys commandeer a fire engine to catch Gomez, who turns out to be a thief rather than their benefactor as they had first assumed when he loaned them money to start their plumbing business.

Hartman has not stinted on the production budget, and the result is some rather attractive settings. Miss Hutton sings "No Bout Adout It" and "My Dreams Are Getting Better All the Time" and the Three Sisters, Margie, Bea and Geri are also featured. Jerome Ash was in charge of photography.

Running time 75 minutes. "G"* To be released Aug. 18.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

MGM Sets Showings For Five Films

M-G-M will trade show "Kismet" on Aug. 28, the same date as the showing of "Lost in a Harem." The screenings will be held in exchanges with the exception of Los Angeles where the film will be seen at the Boulevard Theatre.

"Maisie Goes to Reno" will be screened today with "Marriage is a Private Affair" now set for showing on Aug. 14. "Waterloo Bridge," reissue starring Robert Taylor and Vivien Leigh will be screened Aug. 21. "Marriage Is a Private Affair" will be tradeshown Aug. 14 instead of Aug. 21, as announced here yesterday.

Arthur To Handle FC St. Louis Sales

Harry C. Arthur of the Fanchon and Marco interests in St. Louis will take over distribution of Film Classics product in the St. Louis territory in a deal which was set by George Hirliman, Film Classics president and Arthur.

With the St. Louis deal, Film Classics will have arranged for distribution outlets in 22 exchange centers. Alfred Crown, assistant to Hirliman is on his way to Denver and Seattle to set deals for distribution in those two exchange centers.

Bracho to Hollywood

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9. — Julio Bracho, winner of two annual Mexican 'Oscars' has left for Hollywood to study American methods of film production.

Kansas City Names Film Appeal Board

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 9.—An appeal board of review to handle appeals from ratings given by the city's film reviewer, as provided for in a city ordinance, has been named by L. P. Cookingham, city manager. The board, which the ordinance states, should have five members, has not functioned in recent years since there have been no appeals filed.

Appointees are Dr. Harold C. Hunt, superintendent of schools; John Thornberry, director of the Kansas City Canteen; Miss Genevieve Hackett, Nathan Rieger and Mrs. Walter P. Page. The motion picture reviewer is Mrs. Eleanore C. Walton.

Kansas City WAC Is Planning for V-Day

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 9.—The War Activities Committee in the Kansas City area has prepared a plan for voluntary observation by theatres of V-Day. Many owners, including circuits, have already announced that they will close their houses.

The WAC is preparing a trailer that exhibitors may use, announcing the closing. Elmer C. Rhoden, WAC area chairman, has named a committee, consisting of George Baker, Arthur Cole, Jerry Zigmond and Senn Lawler.

King Vidor in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—King Vidor arrived here recently from Hollywood with his family to make plans for producing a film in this country.

Rules Clearance Should Continue

The 23-day clearance of the Family and Shirley Theatres, Covington, Ky., over the Liberty, Madison and Broadway Theatres, also Covington operated by the Richard P. Ernst Realty Co., was termed reasonable by arbitrator John H. Clippinger, in ruling on a clearance complaint in the Cincinnati tribunal against Loew's, RKO and 20th-Fox, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday. The complaint had asked that the clearance be eliminated entirely or one-day clearance imposed.

In the Boston tribunal, arbitrator Cyril N. Angell ruled in a clearance complaint filed by the Ayer Playhouse Co., Inc., operator of the Playhouse Theatre, Ayer, Mass., against the five consenting companies, that no clearance should exist over the Ayer Playhouse Theatre in favor of the first-run Plymouth and Metropolitan in Leominster, Mass., and the Fitchburg and Shea theatres, Fitchburg, Mass. He ruled further that the Merrimac and Strand theatres in Lowell, Mass., shall be entitled to a maximum clearance of seven days over the first-run Ayer Playhouse and also that the complaint against Paramount be dismissed insofar as the Strand and Merrimac was concerned, the Association reported.

Announce Line-Ups For Allied Game

John Wensich of Columbia and Ed Lachman, Boonton, N. J., theatre man have been chosen tentatively as starting pitchers in the distributors-exhibitors softball game that will feature the Allied of New Jersey outing at Bear Mountain Aug. 16.

Manager Ben Abner of the distributors plans to use Tony Ricci behind the bat; Paul Winnick, J. Rosen, Harold Bennett, and Lou Allerhand on the bases, and Ed Carroll, Lee Mayer, Sam Rifkin and Moe Kurtz in the outfield. Al Gebhardt and Bill Murphy will be held in reserve as moundsmen, with Alex Arnswalder emergency catcher. Dave Levy has drawn the coaching assignment.

Lachman, managing the exhibitor outfit, will have M. Spewak to receive his slants, with Jack Fields in reserve. The infield will consist of I. Dollinger, Joe Siccardi, M. Fogelson and Lou Gold; the outfield, Haskell Block, H. Feld, M. Parks and H. H. Lowenstein, Lou Feld, H. Brown and L. Martin are being groomed as relief pitchers. David Snaper of New Brunswick will umpire the game.

All branches of the industry have been invited on the boat ride to Bear Mountain, where numerous events in addition to the ball game will be held.

Plans 6 FM Stations

CINCINNATI, Aug. 9. — Plans for erecting six FM stations at an estimated cost of $200,000 each have been disclosed by James D. Shouse, vice-president of the Crosley Corp., operating WLW, WSAI and international short wave station WLWO here. Negotiations are now under way for sites here and in Northern Kentucky. Dayton and Columbus Stations will also be built in two other undisclosed cities. Construction will open when necessary materials are available.

"THE PLAYGROUND OF AMERICA" IS THE BACKGROUND
OF REPUBLIC'S MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

ATLANTIC CITY





THE MILLION DOLLAR PEER
OF THE YEAR
IN MUSICAL COMEDY

•

There's
BEAUTY on the BEACH
MUSIC in the AIR
SONGS in their HEARTS

•

... Calling
MR. & MRS. AMERICA
to travel down
MEMORY LANE

starring
CONSTANCE MOORE
and
BRAD TAYLOR
featuring
CHARLEY GRAPEWIN
JERRY COLONNA
and
ROBERT B. CASTAINE · ADELE MARA

PAUL WHITEMAN
and Orchestra
LOUIS ARMSTRONG
and his Band
with BUCK & BUBBLES
and DOROTHY DANDRIDGE

plus

BELLE BAKER
the voice that thrilled millions .
the 'Queen of the High C's'
JOE FRISCO
the original 'Jitterbug' who
sang 'K-K-Katy' with every gag
GALLAGHER & SHEAN
(Jack Kenny & Al Shean)
A detour to the 'Ziegfeld Follies'
'Positively, Mr. Gallagher, Absolutely, Mr. Shean'
VAN & SCHENCK
(Gus Van & Charles Marsh)
The 'Sinatra' & 'Bing' of yesterday

RAY McCAREY — Director
Original Story by ARTHUR CAESAR
Screenplay by DORIS GILBERT
FRANK GILL, Jr. · GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

Remember:

"BY THE SEA"
"AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' "
"AFTER YOU'VE GONE"
"I AIN'T GOT NOBODY"
"NOBODY'S SWEET-HEART"
"ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON"
"MR. GALLAGHER AND MR. SHEAN"
"WHO PUT THE BIRD ON NELLIE'S HAT"
"DARKTOWN STRUTTERS' BALL"
and a score of others



A REPUBLIC PICTURE

'Skeffington', 'Wing' Share Honors in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9.—"Mr. Skeffington" and "Wing and a Prayer" divided the major share of the grosses this week. "Skeffington" got $58,872 in its second week at Warners' Downtown, Hollywood and Wiltern, which together average $50,900. "Wing" got $58,900 at FWC's Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State combination, where $50,200 is par. Weather was fine, and hot.

Estimated receipts for the week ending:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,200).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,400. (Average: $15,500).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M) 7 days, 3rd week
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $9,500).
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,200).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
LOEW'S STATE—($2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
PANTAGES — (2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $16,700).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $8,700).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $10,500).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,977. (Average: $17,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd wek. Gross: $21,216. (Average: $18,700).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,679. (Average: $15,200).

Will Name Ship for Projector Inventor

PANAMA CITY, Fla., Aug. 9.—A liberty ship named for C. Francis Jenkins, credited with inventing the motion picture projector, first patented in 1894, will be launched here Aug. 23, and arrangements are being made for the industry to participate.

Jenkins, who died in 1934, was granted some 400 patents during his lifetime. He was president of Jenkins Laboratories, vice-president of Jenkins Television Corp., and author of "Vision by Radio" and other books.

'Way' Still Setting Pace in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Aug. 9.—For the third consecutive week, "Going My Way" holds the top spot, with a big $28,000 in the Loew State Theatre till. Ozzie Nelson and Harriet Hilliard are good for a big $28,000 at the RKO Palace, teamed with "Nine Girls" on the screen. $12,000 at the Allen with "The Mask of Dimitrios" is good.

Estimated take for week ended Aug. 9:

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
ALLEN — (3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $22,100)
"Show Business" (RKO)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,200).
"The Man From Frisco" (Rep.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Nine Girls" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Ozzie Nelson, Harriet Hilliard, and vaudeville. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $19,000).
"The Hour Before Dawn" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Holiday's' $17,500 In Providence Run

PROVIDENCE, Aug. 9.—"Christmas Holiday" hit $17,500 for its first week at the RKO-Albee Theatre. Business elsewhere was relatively slow, due to the heat.

Estimated grosses for the week ending Aug. 10:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,800).
"Jam Session" (Col.)
"Nine Girls" (Col.)
STRAND — (2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,700. (Average, $10,500).
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"Port of Forty Thieves" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,400. (Average: $17,700).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,100).
"Tiger Shark" (WB)
"The Walking Dead" (WB)
FAY'S — (1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,500).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. 3rd week, moveover after two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $4,000).

Drive-In Expansion Looms for Chicago

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—N. S. Barger, operator of the first Drive-In theater in this area, has purchased lots in suburban West and South Side districts for post war construction of similar houses.

Designs will combine recent developments in open air theatres with the best features of Barger's original drive-in, which is reportedly earning the greatest grosses in the four-season history of the enterprise. An adjoining lot has been purchased to accommodate overflow audiences.

'White Cliffs' Grabs Toronto Spotlight

TORONTO, Aug. 9—"The White Cliffs or Dover" at Loew's Theatre grabbed the spotlight, and the rush indicated a gross of $16,700 against a prospective $9,800 for the fourth week of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at Shea's Theatre. "Bathing Beauty" looked good for $7,300 in its third week at the Uptown Theatre, while "And the Angels Sing" promised $11,800 at the Imperial Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 10:

"Secret Mission" (Br.)
"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $4,000).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,800).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $11,200).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $12,800).
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
"The Fighting Sullivans" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $4,400).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN — (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,800).

'Skeffington' Gets $18,000 in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Aug. 9.—"Mr. Skeffington" is expected to lead here with an approximate $18,000 at the Buffalo. "Going My Way" looks good for a good $16,000 in the fourth week of an amazing run at the Great Lakes. The weather cooled off after some record-breaking heat.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 12:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,400)
"Going My Way" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
HIPPODROME — (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $9,700. (Average: $9,700).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"Man From Frisco" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY — (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,200).
"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $12,400).

Vance Heads $950,000 Amusement Project

CINCINNATI, Aug. 9.—A large site has been acquired in the business district here for a multi-purpose auditorium to cost $950,000, financed by local capitalists and sponsored by Willis Vance, operating the suburban 20th Century, Ohio and Eden Theatres here, and the State, at nearby Newport, Ky.

The structure, on which work will be started as soon as restrictions on materials are lifted, is planned for a capacity of 9,200, and, while designed primarily as a convention hall, will include a general athletic stadium and sports arena, with provisions for other types of amusements.

'Jills', Show Pull $53,000 To Lead Loop

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—The Chicago is the leader again with a fine $53,000 for the first week of "Four Jills in a Jeep" and Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe Revue" on stage. The Woods came through with a fine $18,500 for the 15th week of "Up in Arms" following a near record $20,000 during the preceding week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 10:

"Four Jills in a Jeep" (20th-Fox)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe Revue." Gross: $53,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Meet the People" (M-G-M
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Follow the Leader" (Mono.) 6 days
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
'Ghost Catchers" (Univ.) 1 day
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $7,400. (Average: $9,100).
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Ada Leonard and Orchestra, and Ella Mae Morse. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $24,000).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.) 6 days
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 9th Loop week. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $29,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 15th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $10,000).

'Way' Doubles Par in Denver First Week

DENVER, Aug. 9.—"Going My Way" at the Denham was expected to gross $10,000 above par, or $19,000 for its opening week, while "Wing and a Prayer" on a dual at the Denver scored $28,500. All moveovers and re-releases were doing a fair business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7-10:

"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)
ALADDIN — (1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $7,840. (Average: $5,600).
'Lost Horizon" (Col.)
"It Happened One Night" (Col.)
BROADWAY — (1,040) 7 days, re-release. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM — (1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Wing and a Prayer" (U. A.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
DENVER — (2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Wing and a Prayer (20th-Fox)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE — (740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500)
"Frisco Kid" (WB) Re-release
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $9,300).
"Between Two Worlds (WB)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,250. (Average: $5,000).

'Skeffington' Takes $20,000 in Cincy

CINCINNATI, Aug. 9.—"Mr. Skeffington" is giving the RKO Albee a big $20,000, which is $6,500 over par, while $20,000 also is in sight for the third week of "Going My Way" at the RKO Palace, where holdovers are a rarity. Business generally is in the upper brackets.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 9-12:

'Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,500).
'The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000).
'Mystery Man" (UA)
'Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).
'Marked Trails" (Mono.)
'The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
'Step Lively" (RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
'Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, after two weeks at the Palace and two weeks at Keith's. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000.)
'Days of Glory" (RKO)
'Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).
'Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,500).

'Wing', at $18,000, Leads in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 9.—Only three first-run theatres offered new pictures this week, with "Wing and a Prayer" at the Fox making the best showing with an estimated $18,000. "Going My Way" in its third week at the Ambassador is a close second with $17,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 9:

'Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
'Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore" (Mono.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,900).
'Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
'Song of Nevada" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,700).
Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. Average: $18,900).
'Going My Way" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,700).
'It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)
'Underground Guerrillas" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,100).
'The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
'Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,100.)
'Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
'The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,200).

Hall City Manager

WATERBURY, Conn., Aug. 9.—Freddy Hall, manager of the Plaza Theatre, has been promoted to the post of city manager of the Mahan circuit in this city, it was reported at the weekend by Roger Mahan. Hall has been in show business 27 years.

Reviews

"Sing, Neighbor, Sing"

(Republic)

THOSE who like their hillbilly ballads served frequently, spontaneously and elaborately will find this Republic offering to their liking. With radio's celebrated mountain minstrels, Lulubelle and Scotty and Roy Acuff with the Smoky Mountain Boys leading off, "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," is a merry song fest. Brad Taylor and Ruth Terry carry the romantic leads, while Harry 'Pappy' Cheshire and Virginia Brissac round out the fore part of the cast.

Taylor, with Roy and the boys, descends upon Blake College in the guise of a noted psychologist in need of a square meal. His ruse is the spring-board for the musical antics, song being his prescription for loveless deans like Miss Brissac. The hypnotic spell which he works upon her discloses a frustrated love for Cheshire, a faculty member. In the meantime, Brad falls for Miss Terry, but his beard limits his strategy until the real professor arrives. The hapless Taylor's explanation is accepted, and while the professor decides to remain at Blake and Miss Brissac and Cheshire take up their courtship where they had left it some 35 years previously, Taylor removes his whiskers, and turns his attention to Miss Terry.

Frank McDonald directed with competence, keeping the production alive and on the move. Morton Scott was musical director. Catchy songs include "Sing, Neighbor, Sing," "Down by the Railroad Track" and "Popcorn Polka," while "Have I Told You Lately That I Love You," a pleasantly sentimental sort of ballad, is introduced. Donald H. Brown produced.

Running time, 70 mins. "G."* Release date, Aug. 12.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"People's Avengers"

(Artkino)

SHORTLY before the tide of battle turned at Stalingrad, 18 Russian paratroop-cameramen descended behind enemy lines on a front ranging from Karelia to Byelo-Russia in the South, shot 100,000 feet of negative of partisan action, and from it evolved a documentary continuity in 58 minutes of running time which is aptly called "People's Avengers."

In point of timeliness, it loses some of its quality against the panorama of total war, particularly so when the Russian armies sweep westward. But its significance is epic as evidence of how the Russian "4-Fs"—old men and women and even children whose equipment commencing with bare knuckles, determination, pitchforks, and a few rifles—ultimately were to liquidate over half a million of the Wehrmacht's choicest.

There is no story in the common acceptance of the term, only incident after incident of guerilla warfare from the Leningrad district to raids on German headquarters on the Kuban; views of villages ruined after visits by German punitive expeditions, followed by guerillas' revenge. One of the highlights is a full scale attack by a large detachment of partisans, using captured German artillery and weapons flown in by plane. From the sparsely punctuated humor in this picture is the ironic touch of a woman darning a sock with a hand grenade in place of a darning egg.

Compilation and direction is by V. Belyev assembled at the Central Newsreel Studios in the Soviet Union. The commentary and narration by Norman Corwin is dispassionately and sincerely articulated. The score is by D. Astradanzev.

Running time, 58 minutes. "G."* Release date, June 15.

JOHN D. STEPHON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Suit Threat Forces House Name Change

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—Threat of a suit by the Balaban and Katz circuit here caused N. S. Barger, local operator, to change the prospective name of his combination policy house, now known as the Rialto, from the Paramount to the Downtown.

The theatre, which has closed for two weeks for renovation, will reopen Sept. 1 with a stage show headed by Johnny 'Scat' Davis, and will be geared to film and stage shows. The Rialto was formerly a burlesque house.

FP-C Plans Theatre

TORONTO, Aug. 9.—Indications point to the purchase by the city of a block of property in the center of the community, including Shea's Theatre of the Famous Players Canadian circuit, for the postwar construction of civic buildings. The expected move has prompted FP-C to make plans for the construction of a downtown theatre and office building at Dundas and Yonge Streets. The site was purchased in the pre-war period, but plans were shelved due to wartime restrictions.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 9

TOP production mark for the summer was reached this week at M-G-M where there are 10 pictures currently in work, with five others scheduled to start this month. They include "Thrill of Romance," starring Van Johnson and Esther Williams; "Without Love," starring Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn; "Hold High the Torch," with Elizabeth Taylor and Lassie; "Valley of Decision," starring Greer Garson with John Hodiak, and an untitled story of the WACs starring Lana Turner.

•

Damon Runyon, famed short-story writer, has been signed by Columbia to do a screenplay based on an original which the studio owns, titled "I'll Be Seeing You." The film will be the first production to be made under Al Jolson's contract as producer on the lot. . . . Veronica Lake has been cast by Paramount for one of the starring roles in "Miss Susie Slagle's," which will start late this month. . . . Ella Raines is set to co-star with George Korvin in Universal's "Arsene Lupin." . . . Wallace Ford has been added to the cast of David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . 20th Century-Fox has signed Cathy Downs, New York cover girl, for a part in "Where Do We Go From Here?"

•

June Duprez has been signed by RKO Radio for an important role with Tom Conway, Ann Rutherford and Richard Lane in the murderm ystery, "Two O'clock Courage." . . . Jane Hazard, former Powers model, has been signed for the leading feminine role in "Murder in the Family," second in the series of Monogram comedies produced by Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz. . . . Sterling Holloway is back in Hollywood after travelling more than 60,000 miles in one year, entertaining soldiers in Africa and Italy.

•

Martin Gosch, the radio producer who has handled the Abbot & Costello and Jack Carson radio shows for some time, has been signed as a producer at M-G-M. He will report to the studio early in September to start preparations for a musical. . . . William Demarest has been assigned one of the important character roles in Paramount's "Salty O'Rourke." . . . Dean Harens has been set by Walter Wanger to play the male lead in his next Universal production, "Salome—Where She Danced." . . . Scott McKay's option has been lifted by Vanguard Films.

•

Ann Sheridan has been selected for the title role of "Calamity Jane," a story of the early West which Jerry Wald will produce for Warner. . . . Name of Patrick Michael Cunning Television Productions has been changed to Patrick Michael Cunning Teleproductions, owing to a conflict with the Paramount subsidiary known as Television Productions. . . . Martin Garralaga has been signed for the role of "Pancho" in Monogram's new series starring Duncan Renaldo as "The Cisco Kid."

Industry Will Meet WPB 20% Raw Stock Cut

(Continued from page 1)

scribed as a "suggestion" for curtailment and not a mandatory order. The film companies plan to abide by the suggestion and meet the curtailment in the use of the raw stock.

No assurances have been received from the WPB that the customary 320,000,000 feet of raw stock will be available to the industry during the final quarter of 1944 starting Oct. 1 but the WPB has indicated that it hopes to be able to increase manufacturing facilities. It is also possible that some curtailment can be effected in the use of raw stock by the various departments of the Government and by the Army and Navy, making more raw stock available to the industry.

The film companies had run almost 40,000,000 over their quota during the first six months of 1944 before the WPB had suggested the 20 percent curtailment last week. Some 40,000,000 to 50,000,000 feet of additional raw stock is available to the industry as a result of credits accrued during the previous quarter in making prints for Army and Navy use. Laboratories processing raw stock into prints for the companies have used up all their reserve stock and are operating on what is described as a "hand to mouth" basis.

Wilcox Sets Deal for 2 a year for APBC

(Continued from page 1)

preparatory to D-Day. An Anglo-American cast is headed by Anna Neagle and Dean Jagger with the writers also Anglo-American.

With Milder and Lightfoot both absent from London, comment was unavailable on reports that ABPC for months past has been considering an ambitious production program preparatory to postwar release of their Elstree studio.

11 Exchange Locals Seek Wage Boosts

(Continued from page 1)

the regional WLB in Philadelphia and the Wage Stabilization Director's office had turned down the application for permission to grant the 10 percent increase. Some 2,000 service workers in the 31 exchange centers have received approximately 12 percent increases allowable under the "Little Steel" formula.

Exemption Sought in Phia. 48-hr. Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

has been ordered. The exchanges are permitted to remain on the 40-hour week until their application for exemption is ruled upon by the WMC.

Col. Films to Army

Columbia's "Louisiana Hayride" and "One Mysterious Night" have been delivered, in 16 mm prints, to the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service for shipment overseas, the home office reported yesterday.

Mexican Production Halt Seen Over Soon

(Continued from page 1)

studios by groups of actors, musicians, directors, resulted from the charge that Solis dominated the union.

Repossession of the studios followed a Labor Ministry ruling that players were privileged to deal directly with producers without consulting the laborites on these transactions. The occupation was made without violence or opposition.

The technical workers have elected a new executive committee, headed by Emilio Gomez Muriel, and have pledged that it will work for union solidarity. However, some anticipate further complications which may block the resumption of production.

Mexican Gov't Boosts Raw Stock Making

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—Government aid to the industry, in the form of special grants to companies producing raw stock in Mexico, has been disclosed by Miguel Aleman, Secretary-of-the-Interior. Negotiations are now under way for the acquisition of 10,000,000 feet of raw stock to be distributed on the basis of merit, with producers of the 'best' films getting the most stock.

Frank Founce, Los Angeles theatre man now working with the Coordinators' Office, has told producers that the U. S. will not be able to continue supplying this country with the volume of raw stock previously imported, and the rumor that Russia might supplement the American shipments has been discredited by Alexander Oumansky, Soviet ambassador here. With 47 films produced in Mexico this year through July 15, exhibitors indicate that production now will have to be curtailed.

WB, MPOE Extend Pact for 30 Days

(Continued from page 1)

ent contract and the union seeking a closed shop; a five percent length-of-service increase every six months and an increase in the number of job classifications from 38 to 53, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Monday.

Minimum of 10 Rank Present Films to UA

(Continued from page 1)

ton Gain, with other Rank emissaries scheduled to follow in the near future.

Sears arrived here late last month and, in addition to holding conferences with Rank, has seen a number of the pictures under consideration, including the Two Cities production, "The Way Ahead."

Geo. Schwartz Resigns

George Schwartz has resigned as general manager of Laffmovie to devote full time to the World Theatre which he recently leased. The World will reopen following alterations as a first-run house presenting films of a specialized type.

Army Sees Films Need

(Continued from page 1)

ment as they get more time. "We now have 60 Army and 30 Naval hospitals receiving entertainment through cooperation of USO Camp Shows and the Hollywood Victory Committee. How many more there will be finally we do not know. But we do know that they will be there for a long time and we know the soldier in the hospital needs more attention than the soldier in action." Fighting men don't want to see anything which "sells America short," he said, adding that war and sad films are unpopular, and the demand for live entertainers is insatiable.

Byron was the HVC luncheon guest today. Tuesday night he informally met between 40 and 50 players who, he said, showed great enthusiasm about overseas tours and persistently inquired how soon newcomers could be booked and veteran players rebooked.

No Early Television, Zenith Corp. Warns

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—Zenith Radio Corp., in its annual report to stockholders, states that the company is not of the opinion that early television broadcasting on a basis that it will warrant large public investment in television sets looks promising. Zenith feels that there are still many economic and technical problems to be met before television can become a satisfactory public home service. It is also of the opinion that frequency modulation will continue its rapid progress after the war and become the most popular type of broadcasting.

The company operates F-M station WZRC and television station W9XZV here.

Mexico Tightens Its Film Censorship

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—Mexican film censors here have issued a new order to producers requiring all scripts to be submitted to the censor board before production is started.

The new order was prompted by complaints from the public charging that objectionable material is appearing on Mexican screens.

'Janie' In Benefit

MUNCIE, Ind., Aug. 9.—Warners "Janie" will have a special premiere here Aug. 25 at the Rivoli under the auspices of the Professional and Business Women of Muncie. Proceeds will be turned over to the Wakeman General Hospital at Camp Atturbury.

Circuits Back 'Show'

CHICAGO, Aug. 9. — The Balaban and Katz and RKO circuits here have pledged their support of "The Show of Shows" to be staged at the Stadium Nov. 11 for the benefit of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

Hoffberg Gets 'Hours'

"Three Hours," French film featuring Jean Pierre Aumont, has been acquired for national release by Hoffberg Productions, Inc. A Broadway run in the early Fall is planned before the picture is distributed nationally.

Ban 'Wilson', 'Days' For Overseas Shows

(Continued from page 1)

ed upon producer Darryl Zanuck's care in avoiding outright propaganda but he has been quoted as aiming, in the production, to point out the need of some sort of world organization for permanent peace, and several newspapers have attacked the picture as "fourth-term propaganda."

In "Heavenly Days," featuring Fibber McGee and Molly, several scenes show citizens being urged to take a more active part in running their government by voting and participating in the selection of candidates. Another scene shows Don Douglas, who portrays Dr. George Gallup, reading Vice-President Henry A. Wallace's book, "The Century of the Common Man," and voicing enthusiasm for it

Spyrous Skouras' Statement

Spyrous P. Skouras, president 20th Century-Fox, in a statement yesterday declared, "The unprecedented action of the War Department in making it impossible for the armed forces now overseas to see Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "Wilson," is a flagrant example of wilful and unfair censorship and repression of the screen.

"It was brought to the attention of the company's executives long before the picture was exhibited that such action was being contemplated. Such action can only be construed as prejudgment without the right of a hearing. "Wilson," is not political propaganda, nor is it the biographical story of a democratic president. It is a dramatic cavalcade of a stirring period of American life.

"As proof of this we call attention to the reaction and sentiments expressed by the press and public in New York City. The picture has broken all existing theatre records and is being seen by more than 20,000 persons daily. It has been unanimously hailed as "'the motion picture every American must see.'

"The New York motion picture critics emphasized that the film was "the ultmate in motion picture entertainment and not political propaganda.

"Fifteen percent of the Roxy Theatre's audiences now seeing "Wilson" are composed of soldiers, sailors and marines. The balance are Democrats and Republicans."

Officials of RKO Radio pictures could not be reached for a statement here last night.

The film companies offer 16mm prints of all their films to the U. S. Army Overseas Motion Picture Service as a gift for showing to members of our armed forces overseas. The Army may accept or reject any film it desires.

Fire at Azteca Studios

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—Fire of undetermined origin, in the testing room of the Azteca Studios here destroyed the print of "Legend of the Bandits" and three reels of "The Mexican." Damages are estimated at $5,000. Two employees were injured.

Betting on Sept. 15

PRC has advanced the release date of "When the Lights Go on Again" to Sept. 15 in the hope that it will coincide with the announcement of Peace in Europe.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 29 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Army Ban on Films Spurs Change in Law

Army, Navy Officials Meet on Amendment

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—Action on enate amendments to remove some of ie restrictions in the present Soldier oting Act which caused the banning "Wilson" and "Heavenly Days" by ie Army for distribution to troops verseas gained impetus today as a re-ilt of the action against the films.

Senator Green of Rhode Island uid banning of the films demonstrated ie need for passage of his proposed nendments to the Soldier Voting Act hich would eliminate some of its esent restrictions. Senator Taft of hio, who aided in drafting the amend-ients, said that he would confer with enator Green next week on the sub-ct.

"The Army has construed the situa-on so strictly," Senator Taft said, ve feel some revision may be neces-ry, principally to clarify our original rpose, which was to prevent only one olitical side from being presented."

Under the contemplated amendment, explained, all films of general cir-ilation in this country could be cir-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Wilson' Has West Coast Opening

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 10.—Opening on ie heels of the War Department's ban n its showing to our troops overseas, ie invitational premiere of "Wilson" the Carthay Circle Theatre here to-ight was one of Hollywood's seasonal ighlights. Notables here had been aiting the opportunity to see Darryl anuck's widely-heralded film and

(*Continued on page 3*)

101 U. S. Features To War Prisoners

A total of 101 Hollywood features ave been received at Geneva this ear for showing to some 6,000,000 American and other Allied prisoners f war in 20 prison camps through-ut German-occupied Europe, accord-ng to the motion picture industry's Public Information Committee.

These films, including "Lady of

(*Continued on page 8*)

Avoid Showdown Over NBC Ban On Film Promotion

The firm stand being taken by the National Broadcasting Co., with other networks expected to follow, against film companies using guest stars on network programs as a means of promoting free advertising for films in no way identified with the actor appearing on the show is not regarded by film company executives as leading to a showdown in the long smouldering feud between radio and motion pictures over "forced plugs" on commercial programs.

NBC has taken the stand that unless a player actually appears in the picture being promoted, the credit will be eliminated by the network's continuity acceptance department. The web is acting under its contractual

(*Continued on page 8*)

Film Features Win Chicago Air Time

CHICAGO, August 10.—The combination of rationed newspaper advertising space and increased interest in film programs on the part of radio advertising agencies has created more business for local radio outlets from circuit and independent exhibitors, and stations, at the same time, are providing more local film news than previously.

For years, radio executives have rejected local film gossip shows, believing that the networks' programs provide sufficient coverage. It has

(*Continued on page 8*)

Longman Taking New WPB Post

Washington, Aug. 10 — Donald R. Longman, chief of the service trades division of the Office of Civilian Requirements since the amusements and recreation section was formed in July 1943, is transferring to a new reconversion section set up by the War Production Board, and his assistant Ross Williams will take over the OCR post, according to unconfirmed reports.

Broidy Opens Mono. Meeting Tomorrow

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—Monogam will open its national sales convention Saturday at the Blackstone Hotel here with more than 100 delegates, including franchise holders and exchange personnel representing all sections of the country except the Pacific Coast in attendance.

After screening completed product Saturday morning, the afternoon session will hear addresses by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager; Irving Mandel, Chicago franchise-holder; Harry H. Thomas, Eastern district manager; Lloyd Lind, contract department head; J. S. Harrington, manager of prints and accessories; Edward Morey, supervisor of exchanges; Sol Francis, Midwest district manager; Arthur Greenblatt, special representative; Max Fellerman, New York represen-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Loew's Net Up $1,060,808; Para. Earns $7,895,000

Loew's, Inc., net profit after taxes for the 40 weeks ended June 8 amounted to $10,514,646, compared to $9,453,838 for the similar period last year, David Bernstein, vice-president and treasurer, announced yesterday. This amounts to $6.24 per share on the common stock, as against $5.67 per share for the same period last year.

Although the company's share of profit before Federal taxes decreased to $19,850,017 from $22,341,536, a smaller tax reserve accounted for the larger net. The reserve this year was $9,335,371 compared to $12,887,698 set

(*Continued on page 8*)

Earnings of Paramount Pictures for the six months ended July 1, 1944, are estimated at $7,895,000 including a $1,536,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries as compared to estimated earnings of $7,387,000, including a $1,374,000 share of similarly undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries for the first six months of 1943, it was announced here yesterday.

Estimated earnings for the second quarter ended July 1, 1944, were $4,081,000 after interest and all charges, including estimated provision for all

(*Continued on page 8*)

WMC Offers Little Hope On Manpower

McNutt Issues Order Tightening Priorities

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10. — War Manpower Commission officials today expressed doubt that it would be possible to give preferential treatment to exhibitors in the procurement of labor in areas where such assistance was most needed, since presumably those areas would be short of workers for essential industries.

In communities where the labor situation is easy, however, they saw no reason why theatre operators should not be permitted to avail themselves of the surplus of workers, provided no more essential activity simultaneously was seeking to recruit employees.

It was explained that all designations of activities as locally needed or otherwise are made on the basis of the situation in the community involved, and it was indicated there is

(*Continued on page 3*)

Arthur Postpones New Project

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—Harry Arthur stated today he will defer his new proposed Exhibitors Distribut-Corp. until after the war. The project has been heading in this direction for some time, but now finalizes in view of the Government's move seeking the decree severance. If successful Arthur calculates the market will be opened which, he says, was his primary objective anyway. He declared it difficult to proceed in view

(*Continued on page 8*)

SWG Plans Group Television Study

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—The Screen Writers Guild has organized groups to study television and has set them to work with an Affiliated Committee for Television, it was reported here recently.

Other organizations setting up programs for a study of Television with the Committee include the Screen Directors Guild, the Screen Cartoonists Guild, the American Society of Cine-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH FRIEDMAN, Columbia's managing director in London, who was appointed to the British Films Council as a distributor representative recently, is scheduled to arrive from the Coast on Monday enroute back to London.

•

L. E. GOLDHAMMER, newly-appointed vice-president and general sales manager for Film Classics, is winding up his affairs in Chicago this week before taking up his headquarters in New York.

•

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, will leave today for Rio de Janiero, starting a tour of Latin and Central America.

•

BURTUS BISHOP, JR., M-G-M district manager at Dallas, and B. D. STONER, manager of the Pittsburgh office, will arrive in New York Monday.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M Albany manager, and RALPH MAW, Buffalo manager, will return to their respective headquarters today after a week's visit here.

•

ALICE C. HAROLD, member of the Warner home office film department, will be married tomorrow to THOMAS A. BANNON.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will return from a brief vacation in New Hampshire Monday.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will begin a vacation today.

•

CARL E. MILLIKEN, MPPDA foreign manager, will return today from Washington.

•

A. JACK SHUMOW, Warner Chicago branch manager, is in town for a home office visit.

•

FRED JOYCE of the 20th Century-Fox exploitation staff in Chicago has returned there from Detroit.

Hersholt Signed as Lesser's Partner

Sol Lesser, head of Principal Productions, Inc., releasing through United Artists, has signed Jean Hersholt as a partner, effective Sept. 1, the UA home office reported yesterday.

Filmex Forms Subsidiary

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 10.—Filmex, well known production company here, has organized a producing subsidiary, Artistas Asociadas, S.A. The staff of the new company already includes three directors: Jose and Gonzalo Elvira and Fernando Cortez. Each has been assigned to direct two pictures a year.

GI's Film Going Increases Tenfold

Roger N. Jaubert, attached to a headquarters company of a tank batallion "somewhere in the South Pacific," in a letter to Gloria Jean, Universal star, stated that he had seen 257 films during his stay in that theatre of operations, more motion pictures than he had viewed in a ten-year period preceding his entry into the Armed Forces.

Of that total Jaubert stated that 16 were late 1942 releases; 139 were 1942 product and 80 were current films, many of which have not yet been exhibited in the United States.

RCA Will Distribute International Chairs

C. C. Koontz, president of the International Seat Corp., announced yesterday that a contract has been signed for RCA's theatre equipment section to handle domestic and foreign distribution of its theatre chairs.

"Production by International will be keyed to meet accumulated postwar demands from the exhibitors," Koontz said, "and expanded distribution facilities to match this production will be provided by the contract with RCA."

Republic Closes Deal With Fox West Coast

Republic has closed a deal with Fox West Coast Theatres, covering the company's 1944-'45 program, the home office reported here yesterday.

Representing the circuit in the negotiations were Edward Zabel and Cullen Epsy, with Francis A. Bateman, Republic's western district sales manager, Sidney Weisbaum, San Francisco branch manager and William Marriott Los Angeles branch manager speaking for the film company. Also present at the negotiations were Charles Skouras, president of Fox West Coast, and James R. Grainger, Republic president.

Bronston, Milestone Host Trade Press

United Artists' producer Samuel Bronston, director Lewis Milestone and UA executives were hosts to the trade press yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel prior to the scheduled departure today of Bronston and Milestone for the Coast. UA recently announced three Bronston productions which it will distribute.

Among those present were Carl Leserman, Lew Pollock, Ed Peskay, James Dunne, Phil Lauefer, Bernie Kamber, Herb Berg, Nicholas Farkas, Burnett Hershey, Abner J. Rubien and Phil Ober.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 10

S. BARRET McCORMICK, RKO advertising and publicity director, will leave here Saturday for New York.

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"Threesome," an original by Laura Hobson, was purchased by Columbia. The author is now at the Columbia studios at work on a film treatment of her novel, "Trespassers."

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RKO added "Sweet Georgia Brown" to its schedule. The play is a musical and will have an all-Negro cast. John H. Auer will produce and direct it.

•

The King Bros. have signed Clarence Bricer as production manager.

Educational Comm. Cites Warner Plan

The Educational Policies Commission in Washington, in a letter to Warners commending the educational promotion material issued for "The Adventures of Mark Twain," urged the release of film study guides by all motion picture companies for major films, the Warner home office reported here yesterday.

The letter stated that this service would be effectively utilized by schools, colleges and other educational institutions throughout the country. The Policies Commission is appointed by the National Education Association of the U. S. and the American Association of School Administrators.

Find Two Guilty of Obscene Exhibition

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 10.—Robert branch, manager of the Arcade Theatre in downtown Los Angeles, and Vivian Sellers, projectionist, were found guilty today of misdemeanor in exhibiting "How to Take a Bath," which an all-woman jury hearing the case witnessed in the court room and declared it obscene. Municipal Judge Charles P. Johnson set Sept. 5 for sentence.

'Summer Storm' Has World Premiere

"Summer Storm," Seymour Nebenzal's latest production being released through United Artists, had its world premiere Wednesday night at Loew's State Theatre in Memphis, it was reported by the home office yesterday.

Reports indicated that advance newspaper publicity campaigns were instrumental in obtaining the capacity crowd which witnessed the premiere.

Abramson Leaves Kirsh

Joe Abramson, secretary to Jack Kirsch, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois, has resigned effective Aug. 25. Abramson, with his family, will move to Los Angeles due to the illness of his youngest son.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Darryl F. Zanuck's
WILSON
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by HENRY KING
Written for the Screen by
LAMAR TROTTI
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY at 45
ON SCREEN
'TWO GIRLS and a SAILOR'
VAN JOHNSON
JUNE ALLYSON
GLORIA DeHAVEN
HARRY JAMES and ORCH.
IN PERSON
DEAN HUDSON and ORCH.
CLIFF EDWARDS

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON
VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
GARY COOPER in
CECIL B. DEMILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
★ In Technicolor ★
RIVOLI B'way & 49th St.

6TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

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Army Ban on Films Spurs Change in Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

culated to troops overseas at Government expense so long "as there was not a special list excluding some of the films."

Taft said he was unfamiliar with either of the banned films and did not know whether or not they contained any political propaganda, but added, if they do "they are prohibited from being distributed at Government expense."

Army, Navy Meet on Amendments Today

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—The banning of "Wilson" and "Heavenly Days" by the Army yesterday as unsutiable for distribution to the Armed Forces under the political ban of the Soldier Voting Act, appeared today as likely to bring speedy action on the proposed revision of the law.

Officials of the Army and Navy will meet tomorrow with members of the Senate elections committee to discuss the situation and attempt to develop a new formula dealing with the dissemination of political propaganda to servicemen.

The application of the political provisions by Army and Navy officials under the burden of the knowledge that they might be held personally liable for violation of the law, which carries heavy penalties, has been the subject of criticism for some weeks, as a result of the banning of a number of magazines from sales in post exchanges.

'Wilson' Has West Coast Opening

(*Continued from page* 1)

turned out in full force. All approaches to the theatre but one were closed by the police.

Meanwhile, indignation ran rampant throughout the 20th Century-Fox studios as a result of the War Department's ban on the film. No further comment was forthcoming with the studio standing by the statement made by Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president in New York yesterday.

In connection with the opening of the film, William C. Gehring, 20th-Fox Western division sales manager, is entertaining 23 exhibitors from the Salt Lake City, Portland, Denver, and Los Angeles areas plus 17 from Los Angeles and 20 from Fox West Coast Theatres. He will hold a studio luncheon tomorrow. Gehring will start 20th Century-Fox regional sales meetings Saturday, with his representatives present from six Western offices. He plans visits here twice annually.

CHGU Plans Action In 'Wilson' Ban

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—The Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions, which castigated the Washington *Times-Herald* for the alleged assertion that the feature picture "Wilson" was propaganda, meets tomorrow afternoon to formulate a policy with respect to the War Department's action banning film's exhibition to troops overseas. A CHGU spokesman tonight said some difference of opinion regarding the course to be followed prevails.

Estabrook Hits Ban On 'Heavenly Days'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—In a statement issued following the War Department's banning of "Heavenly Days," Howard Estabrook, who wrote and directed it, said, "It is not pro nor anti anything, especially New Deal. It is a light-hearted comedy, with a Washington background, poking a little fun at the average citizen, and hints he should attend to his responsibilities, which every editorial writer has been urging for years.

The statement cited a War Department communication to RKO stating its approval for domestic and export release. It continued, "This refers to civilian audiences. I am astonished at the action banning "Heavenly Days" for showing to the armed forces."

Reviews

"Maisie Goes to Reno"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Aug. 10

FOR reasons which do not appear on the screen, this item in the Maisie series has been allotted 91 minutes. The picture is long for a secondary and thin for a top or solo programming. In other respects it conforms in general to the Maisie films which have preceded it.

The people who go along with Ann Sothern over the long route are John Hodiak, Tom Drake, Marta Linden, Paul Cavanagh, Ava Gardner, Bernard Nedell, Roland Dupree, Chick Chandler, Bunny Waters and Donald Meek, Hodiak providing the romantic interest as a Reno Black-Jack dealer in love with the heroine.

The screenplay by Mary C. McCall, Jr., based on a story by Harry Ruby and James O'Hanlon, tells at length how Maisie, now a riveter in a plane plant, goes to Reno to sing with a band but gets involved in an attempt of swindlers to engineer a divorce which would free an heiress from a soldier husband and give them a chance to get her money. Heiress and soldier are made such sketchy characters that the plot against their marriage seems like too much ado about too little.

Miss Sothern has some good moments, and some of the dialogue got hearty laughs from a preview audience at the Village theatre in collegiate Westwood.

George Haight produced the picture and Harry Beaumont directed it.

Running time, 91 mins. Release date not set. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Dangerous Journey"

(20th Century-Fox)

CAPITALIZING on the rubber-neck instinct inherent in most of us, "Dangerous Journey," conducts a tour of the Dark Continent of Africa and the more exotic lands of the East, India, Burma and Ceylon, via the Armand Denis-Leila Roosevelt expedition. The scientific value of the expedition is a moot question, but its entertainment contribution is amply demonstrated.

This feature-length travelogue covers such subjects as self-mutilation practiced by certain African natives to enhance their beauty; a thrilling sequence whereby a wild elephant is trapped; the curious religious rites of the Indians, and the climax of the film: the conquest of a Snake-God in the remote fastness of Burma by a woman priestess, according to traditional Burmese lore. The woman, to assert her superiority over the snake, a deadly king cobra, must call him forth from his pit and by a series of chants and intricate manoeuvers, kiss the reptile three times on his clammy head, in order that her tribe shall be blessed by fertility. Suffice it to say that a preview audience was on tenterhooks until the woman accomplished her mission.

Conrad Nagel delivers a pithy narration for what is a completely absorbing film. United Artists will distribute in most foreign territory.

Running time, 73 mins. "G."* Release in September, Block 2.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

M-G-M Press Books Get Village Column

M-G-M has inaugurated a new feature in its press books designed to assist the small-town exhibitor, the home office here reported yesterday. William R. Ferguson, exploitation manager, announced that a column of exploitation ideas for small theatres will be incorporated in all press books.

Included in the section will be stunts and promotions that can be executed at small cost as well as designs for lobby displays, tie-ups, street ballyhoo, mailing pieces, etc.

1,100% Over Quota

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.— Manager Bert Herman of the Marlboro Theatre in Upper Marlboro, Md., surpassed his Fifth War Loan bond quota by 1100 percent. With a seating capacity of 492, Herman's house was responsible for the sale of 515 bonds totalling $81,000 with $12,000 in "E" bonds.

WMC Offers Little Hope On Manpower

(*Continued from page* 1)

no immediate prospect of modifying the present policy of making such decisions on the local level.

Designation as locally needed was asked of the WMC some weeks ago by representatives of the industry and, more recently, by the Office of Civilian Requirements, but it was said today that any such designation on a nation-wide basis was not in prospect.

This statement was given point by instructions issued tonight by WMC Chairman Paul McNutt, tightening the priority referral program, under which area directors are authorized to require employers in less essential industries to release workers temporarily for plants producing the most critically short items in areas where the needs of these plants can be met in no other way.

Effect in Production Areas

There was some doubt how these orders would affect exhibitors in areas where drastic action is required to man war plants, since it is contemplated that only men qualified for war production jobs will be taken, the situation apparently making the training of workers impracticable.

Employers whose workers are taken will be urged to grant them leave without pay so that they may return when released from war plants. Workers qualified for war production who refuse suitable employment without good cause will be terminated from their present employment.

Set Radio Campaign To Promote 'Cross'

"The Seventh Cross" has been selected as the next M-G-M film to receive national promotion over that company's "Screen Test" program, heard every night over WHN and 87 Mutual Network stations.

One of the most extensive spot radio campaigns ever accorded an M-G-M film in New York has been planned for "The Seventh Cross," which will open at the Capitol Theatre here following completion of the "Since You Went Away" run. The radio drive is scheduled to get under way today.

Coupon Books Make GI's Film Conscious

Camp Croft, S. C., Aug. 10.— Enlisted men stationed here are becoming regular film fans, it is reported by Lt. E. E. Anderson, theatre officer, who was responsible for the recent issuance of coupon admission books, entitling the boys to 10 shows for the price of eight. T/Sgt. Charles Wolfe, manager of the Camp Croft theatres, stated that promotion of the ticket books is boosting attendance in all camps.

"ONE OF THE FINEST FILMS EVER PRODUCED!"—New York Daily News

NEVER IN ALL HISTORY SUCH ACCLAIM IN TRADE PAPERS, NEWSPAPERS, EDITORIALS AND RADIO COMMENT...

PRECEDENT-SMASHING EDITORIALS AND NEWS SECTION BREAKS IN NEW YORK PAPERS

"SUPERB ENTERTAINMENT"—Evening

"A RARE GEM!"—New York Times

...AND NEVER SUCH RECOR

"MONUMENTAL!"—Evening Post

"ALL THE EXCITING THINGS YOU HEARD IN ADVANCE ARE TRUE!"—Mirror

Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSO

IN TECHNICOLOR

Directed by Henry King • Written by Lamar Trott



N truly the Picture of the Century from 20th Century-Fox

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

Censorship at Root Of Argentine Ban

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—A critical shortage of raw stock, the desire to supply countries where we use the film ourselves and growing dissatisfaction with Argentina censorship are disclosed to have been contributing factors to the suspension some weeks ago of motion picture film allocations to that country. While cutting off the raw stock supply occurred at a time when relations between Washington and Argentina were becoming increasingly strained, the action was in no sense an "economic sanction" since Argentine film inventories are believed to be sufficient for her to continue her two newsreels for some time, although it is not known how badly her feature production will be affected.

Since raw stock was put under allocation, Argentina has been getting in the neighborhood of 22,000,000 feet a year, and in some quarters is seen as being treated better than other nations whose position among the Democracies has been less questionable.

20th-Fox Embarks on Writer-Director Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—A policy of converting writers into directors has been adopted by 20th Century-Fox, and two assignments under the plan have been made so far. George Seaton, who wrote the screenplay for "The Song of Bernadette" will direct "Diamond Horseshoe", a major enterprise; and John Larkin, author of "Bermuda Mystery" and more than a dozen other minor features, will direct "The Spider".

Producer Bryan Foy, scheduled to turn out a dozen utility films on the 1944-45 program, is one of those who will give emphasis to the new policy, which is said to have been influenced by the success of Darryl F. Zanuck, who started as a writer. It is pointed out that there are some 900 active members of the Screen Writers Guild in Hollywood and only about 250 class-A members of the Screen Directors Guild, although this, according to reports, did not have a direct bearing on the adoption of the plan by 20th-Fox.

Honor MacEachron For War Bond Selling

JACKSON, Tenn., Aug. 10.—The Jackson Exchange Club recently held a "J. R. MacEachron Day" here honoring the manager of the local Princess Theatre and city manager for Malco Theatres in recognition of his work in War Loan campaigns.

MacEachron was responsible for the sale of $100,000 worth of bonds in the first drive, $300,000 in the second, over $500,000 in the third and approximately $1,200,000 in the fourth campaign.

Honor Davis, Humphries

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 10.—Motion Picture Associates will hold a testimonial dinner Sept. 11 for Alfred J. Davis, new Monogram branch manager here, and William Humphries, sales manager of 20th Century-Fox succeeding Davis. George Beattie heads the arrangements committee.

Short Subject Reviews

"The Desert Hawk"

(Columbia Serial)

Completely reversing the recent serial trend toward "Supermen" who flourish with the aid of mechanics, electronics and aeronautics, Columbia here comes up with a lush, romantic, swashbuckling chapter-play reminiscent of the Fairbanks-Valentino era. And the shades of those great figures almost rise from the memory book as Gilbert Roland, well-known from such features as "The Sea Hawk," makes his serial debut in the twin roles of the good Kasim, rightful ruler over the land of Ahab, and his bad brother, Hassan, who deposes him in the first episodes and is destined to reign ignominously until the 15th chapter.

Mona Maria, Argentine beauty who can act, is present as the subject of frequent rescues when she gets mixed up with an outlaw band that complicates the works. Ben Welden, Kenneth MacDonald, Frank Lackteen and Egon Brecher give strong support, spiced with comedy. Produced by Rudolph C. Flothow and directed by B. Reeves Mason, "The Desert Hawk," on the basis of its two opening chapters, seems to be a winner.

"Fortress Japan"

(United Artists)

Allied militarists predict that Japan will withdraw into the area immediately surrounding the island proper, backed by Manchuria, Nippon's industrial stronghold, there to launch her last-ditch stand against the inevitable crushing attack of total Allied military strength. The National Film Board of Canada has undertaken a graphic screen presentation of the expected strategy.

While the Son of Heavon calls for faith and courage from his people at home, his Armies and Navies are suffering blow upon blow at the hands of the U. S. His people are starving. The gradual weakening of the home front is adequately demonstrated in shots of factory hands working a 16-hour day for little or no return—of fishermen hauling in their bursting nets, only to give the catch up to the government — of royal lotteries conducted to alleviate the temendous war debt. Stuart Legge has handled his subject in excellent fashion. His script, spoken by Lorne Greene, is highly effective. These, coupled with a fine photographic job, combine to make a stirring and impressive account of Nippon's war as the tide of battle turns against her. Running time, 17 mins.

"Brother Brat"

(Warners)

Porgy Pig plays nursemaid to a Blockhead defense worker's child, affectionately called 'Butch,' and for good reason. 'Butch' has been reared by a child-psychology book — applied in most cases to his seat. Porky loses the fight to the baby but Mama arrives in time to save the pig from an untimely end at the hands of 'Butch,' well-schooled in boxing and the other manly arts. The subject is highly amusing. Leon Schlesinger produced for the Looney Tune series. Frank Tashlin supervised. Running time, 7 mins.

"Rockefeller Center"

(RKO-Pathe)

A glimpse of New York's Rockefeller Center from the bottom up and from the inside out is afforded in the current "This Is America" release. For those who have not seen for themselves this miracle of modern engineering, "Rockefeller Center" is especially interesting and for those who have interesting and little known side-lights, for the most part concerned with the boiler room and behind-the-scenes functions of major radio networks are brought to view. Shots of the beginning of construction of the Center are particularly good. A fitting and effective climax is offered in sequences showing the retreat ceremony executed by a New York contingent of the Military Police forces on the Plaza as the flags of the Allied Nations are lowered in a territory which stands out today as a symbol of the free peoples of the world. The subject is well handled with the photography and commentary up to usual high standards of the series. Frederic Ullman, Jr., produced. Running time, 16 mins.

"Throwing the Bull"

(Warners)

The history of bull fights is traced interestingly and entertainingly. The matador is shown as he is trained from early youth to enter the bull-ring. James A. Fitzpatrick, who directed and narrates, presents the bull-fight as a social and sporting event and the Mexican counterpart of the American baseball game. The film is climaxed with a bull fight featuring Carlos Arrooza, one of Mexico's younger and more popular matadors. The subject is a good one, both for interest and education. Running time, 10 mins.

"Tangled Travels"

(Columbia)

A satire on travelogues, and a good one. "Tangled Travels" is what the film-going public needs more of. Built strictly for laughs, a dazed narrator takes the audience on a whirlwind trip through the country, pausing in the Bayou country to "buy you" a drink and skipping the Erie Canal anticipating an eerie encounter with his mother-in-law. "Tangled Travels" is 7 mins.

"Mat Maulers"

(Columbia)

Wrestling has turned into a "playful" little sport with nothing more exciting than a few broken ribs to recall the "good old days" to the older fans of what was once a brutal game. Two of the wrestling world's most important figures are batted about the mat, but it's all in fun, so says commentator Bill Stern. The reel is loaded with laughs. Harry Foster directed. Running time 9 mins.

"Screen Snapshots"

(Columbia)

The camera catches Adolph Menjou, Veree Teasdale, Bob Burns, Joan Davis and Jack Haley entertaining servicemen in hospitals and via radio broadcasts from Army and Naval bases. Also pictured are prominent Hollywood stars who are in uniform. Running time 9½ mins.

MontrealGrossesCut By Tram Strike

MONTREAL, Aug. 10.—Montreal's strike of railway and bus operators was responsible for losses of from 30 to 50 per cent. With an $11,500 house average, Loew's, playing "The White Cliffs" for a third week, is expected to take $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 10:

"Le Grand Mensonge" (French reissue, "The Great Lie")
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,000).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Para.)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-45c-63c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,000).

"Knickerbocker Holiday" (UA)
"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (27c-34c-47c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,500).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000).

Early Opening for Chicago Fund Drive

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—The amusement and recreation division of the 1944 Community and War Fund, which opens its drive Oct. 1, jumped the gun by officially opening its campaign today during a luncheon at the Blackstone Hotel, tendered by Arthur Schoenstandt, theatre circuit head and chairman of the drive.

Present at the affair and pledging their support were John Balaban, B & K president; Jack Kirsh, president Allied of Illinois; J. E. Flynn, M-G-M Western division manager; Tom Gilliam, 20th-Fox branch manager; Chas. Ryan, assistant Warner Brothers Theaters zone manager; Eddie Silverman,president Esseness circuit; Johnny Jones, head of Jones, Linick and Schaefer; James Gorman, president of the projectionists here; Tom Burke, head of the Janitors union; Irving Mack of Filmack Trailer; and Sam Myers, Ben Banowitz, Ben Bartlestein, and Lou Reinheimer, circuit heads.

No quota for the amusement division has been set as yet. Gorman said the projectionists will donate a day's pay.

'Classics' Gets Levy; Signs Two Circuits

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—Ted Levy, former local head booker at Warners, has been named booker and salesman for Film Classics here, it was disclosed today by Johnny Jones, Chicago franchise holder. Levy was succeeded at Warners by George Benson.

Jones also reported that Film Classics has signed contracts with the Essaness and Balaban and Katz circuits for product exhibition.

Weil, Hoffberg Close Deal on 'Victory'

Robert Weil, president of Scoop Productions, and J. H. Hoffberg of Hoffberg Productions have completed a deal covering distribution of "One Inch from Victory." The film had its American premiere at the Stanley Theatre in New York.

'Fifi' Hits $34,000 In San Francisco Week of Holdovers

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 10.—Despite an abundance of holdovers here, grosses were more than satisfactory with "Mademoiselle Fifi" taking $34,000 in its initial week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 8-10:

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Mlle. Fifi" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Stagecoach" (UA)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
FOX—(5,600) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $28,000).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Song of Nevada" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. moveover from Warfield. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Sensations of 1944" (UA)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,000).

'Dragon' Soars to Grand $25,000

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 10.—Hot weather didn't affect soaring grosses here this week. "Dragon Seed" at the Midland did around $25,000. "Wing and a Prayer" drew $20,000 to the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 8-11:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $10,000).
"Charlie Chan in the Chinese Cat" (Mono.)
"Ghost That Walks Alone" (Col.)
TOWER—(2,200) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400.)
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,600).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $1,600).

L. E. Corwin Dies

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 10.—Lawrence E. Corwin, 40, formerly associated with his brother Sherrill in the management of the Orpheum and other theatres here, died yesterday in Topeka, Kansas. He is survived by his widow, Estelle, and his father, J. H. Corwin, in addition to his brother.

Redmond Moves Offices

John Redmond, division manager in charge of RKO Singer Theatres in the Midwest, will move his headquarters from the Metropolitan Building in Chicago to the Brandeis Theatre Building in Omaha on Aug. 15.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



AIR BOOST FOR PAULETTE!.... TO-NIGHT'S BROADCAST OF POPULAR "PEOPLE ARE FUNNY" PROGRAM WILL FURNISH 130-STATION RADIO PROMOTION FOR PAULETTE GODDARD AND SONNY TUFTS IN **"I LOVE A SOLDIER."** ENTIRE SHOW WILL BE BUILT AROUND THIS MARK SANDRICH PRODUCTION, WITH GUEST APPEARANCES OF TUFTS AND MARJORIE REYNOLDS, AND WILL ORIGINATE FROM 'FRISCO IN CONNECTION WITH PICTURE'S WORLD PREMIERE AT THE 'FRISCO FOX AUG. 15TH.

'Way' Out in Front in 3rd Pittsburgh Week

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 10.—"Going My Way" is still out in front as it sweeps into its third week at the Penn with an estimated $25,000 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7-11:

"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,100).
"Dead End" (UA)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $21,700).
"Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,350).

'Way' Shows Heels 3rd Straight Week

OMAHA, Aug. 10.—For the third straight week "Going My Way," now showing at the Orpheum theatre, grabbed box office honors with a gross of $12,100. "The Eve of St. Mark" hit $10,200 at the Paramount.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 9-10:

"Secret Command" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $6,500).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Hat-Check Honey" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $8,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,800).
"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $11,700).

Indianapolis Topped By 'Way' with $12,500

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 10.—"Going My Way" in its third week at the Indiana will do $12,500 to top receipts here this week. "Bathing Beauty," in a second week at Loew's, will gross $10,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 8-10:

"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"It Happened Tomorrow" (UA)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500).
"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
"Roger Touhy, Gangster" (20th-Fox)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $4,900).

Lewyn to Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 10.—Lewis Lewyn, Warners short subject producer working under Gordon Hollingshead has arrived here to make final arrangements for the filming of "Musical Mexico."

Army Sees 'Air Routes'

Over 1,000 bookings of "Global Air Routes," produced by the National Film Board of Canada and distributed through United Artists, have been set for Army posts for showing this month.

Avoid Showdown Over NBC Ban On Film Promotion

(*Continued from page* 1)

authority to accept or reject anything on the air.

Film company publicity heads point out that if NBC or the other networks which adopt similar policies pursue this course of action it is unlikely that the companies will make guest stars available for appearances on network programs in instances where they are in a position to control the appearances of stars or featured players on the air. It is pointed out that in a great many cases which will come up, companies will have no control over the star's air appearances and will have to content themselves with film promotion in conformity with the network's policy. However, if the advertising agency which controls the program or the network itself requests the guest appearance of a particular star where the studio has control over air appearances, the film company will insist upon the insertion of the type of promotion which it desires.

Methods of Retaliation

Another means of retaliation against any such arbitrary policy by the networks which is available to the film companies would be refusal to sell radio rights to scripts of their films. Although the sale of these scripts over a period of years has been a source of additional revenue to film companies, it is believed that they should not hesitate to sacrifice the revenue to force the hand of the networks if they refused the requested promotion which accompanies the sale of the film script for radio use. Here again the film companies do not own full radio rights in many of the literary properties which have been adapted to films and they would be powerless to prevent the sale of all scripts. Such programs as CBS "Radio Theatre" which features Cecil B. DeMille, guest stars and a film script, would be the hardest hit to find other sources of program material.

Both RKO and M-G-M now have network programs as a medium for advertising their films and all film companies have become heavy buyers of spot announcements on the air. Since any form of showdown between radio and motion pictures would have so many involved ramifications, film company heads see little opportunity for a real showdown. Instead, they are inclined to minimize the action taken by NBC. The real showdown could only come if radio is prepared to dispense with the use of guest film stars and film scripts in every instance where it is necessary to do so to force elimination of unwanted "forced plugs." This is not regarded as likely, and a compromise on the issue is seen.

Illinois Allied Unveiling

CHICAGO, Aug. 10.—The service plaque of Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois will reveal names of 350 members in the Armed forces when it is unveiled next month. Gold stars appear opposite the names of Joseph Schaefer and Bill Pisula, both formerly of the New Strand staff here.

Film Features Win Chicago Air Time

(*Continued from page* 1)

taken some pressure on the part of local advertising agencies with prospective sponsors looking for airtime to convince station executives that film news of territorial interest can increase their audience.

Today, at least four regularly scheduled shows give publicity to local film news and interview visiting film celebrities. They are Nikky Kaye on WCFL, Nate Gross on WBBM, Don Norman on WENR, and Eddie and Fannie Cavanaugh on WGN. All programs are sponsored, but not by the film industry.

Station WJJD has renewed its contract with Balaban and Katz whereby the station exploits films in B & K houses several times daily, while B & K screens carry WJJD trailers. B & K has also signed a contract with WMAQ for 13 transcribed one-minute announcements for the week of Aug. 14 promoting "The Hitler Gang" and "And the Angels Sing" which will play the Garrick and Chicago theatres during that period. The success of this campaign will determine the future use of similar announcements.

Warner Theatres have had a long standing tie-up with Station WAAF which publicized both the circuit's neighborhood theatres and its programs. A number of neighborhood independent exhibitors are using smaller stations for frequent announcements of important product.

SWG Plans Group Television Study

(*Continued from page* 1)

matographers, the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors and the Western branches of the Radio Writers Guild, Radio Directors Guild and the American Federation of Radio Artists. The committee has announced a seven-point program under which it will produce a "work shop television program," maintain courses of instruction, conduct meetings and provide lectures, pursue research, publish a newsletter, operate a circulating library and institute a study of economic problems.

Arthur Postpones New Project

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the new development because the question mark is how the Government would view theatre men owning distribution companies in light of the avowed intention to force exhibition apart from production distribution. He thinks his potential position might be identical only in reverse. Arthur entrains for St. Louis and then to New York on Sunday.

Film Men in War Fund

BUFFALO, Aug. 10. — Charles B. Taylor, publicity director of Buffalo Theatres, Inc., and Elmer F. Lux, branch manager here for RKO, have been named to the theatre committee of the third annual United War Fund & Community Fund campaign which starts Oct. 2.

Para. First Half Net, $7,895,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

Federal normal and excess profits taxes. The amount includes $693,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

The $4,081,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the quarter represent $1.09 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding on July 1, 1944, which compares with $1.02 per share for the quarter ended July 5, 1943. The $7,895,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the six months represent $2.10 per share on such common stock outstanding, which compares with $1.97 per share for the first six months of 1943.

Effective with the first release of the current year, the portion of the cost of released productions allocated to foreign countries has ben amortized commencing one month instead of the previous basis of three months after domestic release date. This change resulted in increased film amortization of approximately $90,000 in the 1944 periods.

$6,000,000 Loan

The Executive Committee of the board of directors of the company yesterday authorized the borrowing of $6,000,000, currently under negotiation with three banks, to be evidenced by unsecured notes maturing $1,000,000 annually, 1945 to 1950. The proceeds of this borrowing, to the extent necessary, are to be loaned by the company to its wholly owned subsidiary, Paramount Broadway Corp., for the purpose of redeeming First Mortgage Sinking Fund Loan Certificates on the Paramount Theatre and Office Building, New York, thereby effecting a net interest saving. When these transactions have been completed the accounts of Paramount Broadway Corporation will thereafter be included in the consolidated financial accounts of the company.

Loew's 40-Week Net Is Up $1,060,808

(*Continued from page* 1)

aside in the comparable 40 weeks of last year.

The company's share of the operating profit after subsidiaries' preferred dividends amounted to $28,020,795, compared to last year's $28,764,013. This year $5,500,000 is being set aside for a reserve of contingencies including pro rata expense of the proposed employees' retirement plan for 40 weeks of the current fiscal year as against $3,800,000. This year's reserve for depreciation amounts to $2,670,778, compared to $2,622,477 for a like period last year.

Variety Plans Dance

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—Local Variety will hold a Victory dinner dance at the Willard Hotel here Nov. 25, it was reported today by John S. Allen, chief barker. Carter Barron is chairman of the general committee, assisted by Fred Kogod.

Broidy Opens Mono. Meeting Tomorrow

(*Continued from page* 1)

tative of Banner Productions, and Oscar Hanson, head of Monogram distribution in Canada.

On Sunday Broidy will review the product for the 1944-45 season, much of which is completed, after which there will be an open meeting.

Delegates present are: Robert Adler, Albany; A. C. Bromberg, George L. Bell and M. W. Wimen, Atlanta Herman Rifkin, Ben Abrams, Harry Levine, Frank Dervin, L. Poulton Nat Levin and Stanley Farrington Boston; Howard W. McPherson, Michael Jusko and Oliver Unger, Buffalo; J. Sam Hinson, Charlotte; Irving Mandel, Ben Eisenberg, Sidney Mussman, Max Dreifuss, Herman Marks and Harold Wise. Chicago: William Onie, Milton H. Gurian Frank S. Decker, Azra A. Skirball and Charles A. Weinberg, Cincinnati.

Additional Delegates

Also, Sam Schiltz, Carl Scheuch and Nate Gerson, Cleveland; Edwin Blumenthal, John L. Franconi, W. J. Cammer, Don Cole, Harry Williams and Elizabeth Hawley, Dallas; Lon Fidler, R. E. Fulham and Rose Agron, Denver; Edward Spiers and Zora Fini, Des Moines; M. Harlan Starr Robert Haskins, Wm. A. Kent, George Custer and Wm. H. Clark, Detroit Carl Harthill, Matt Lavin and Mildred Winer, Indianapolis; Mike Lee Charlie Siebenthaler and Helen McCoy, Kansas City; Bailer Prichard Memphis; C. W. Trampe, R. L. McNamee and H. Edward Lurie, Milwaukee.

Also, Thomas A. Burke, J. E. Lovelett, H. W. Buck, Berger Ronning and Louise F. Wakefield, Minneapolis; Henry Glover and Harold Cohen New Orleans; Joe Felder, Nat Furst Jack Farkas, Meyer Solomon, Ben Price and Etta Segall, New York Carr Scott, J. Clark and P. W. Myers, Oklahoma City; Michael Comer and Ester Granville, Omaha; Sam Fineberg, Leo Wayne, Frank Dana and Bill Graner, Philadelphia; Barney Rosenthal, John Morphet, Wm Guinan and N. A. Garner, St. Louis Don Tibbs and Graham Susman, Salt Lake City; Harry Brown, Gladys Murray, Jack Safer and Harry Goldman, Washington; O. R. Hanson and Harry Kaufman, Toronto, and Victor Racknow, Winnipeg.

101 U. S. Features To War Prisons

(*Continued from page* 1)

Burlesque," "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," "Kitty Foyle," "Cabin in the Sky," "The Man Who Came to Dinner," "Shine On, Harvest Moon," "The Great Waltz," "Knickerbocker Holiday," "The Uninvited" and "Up in Mabel's Room," are being taken from camp to camp by 10 YMCA workers from the neutral countries who are equipped with 16mm portable projection equipment. Newsreels and war pictures are excluded by both the U. S. postal censors and by enemy regulations.

Morgan, Moley to Mono.

Frank Morgan, formerly with RKO and Sam Moley, recently manager of Ross Federal Service in San Francisco, have joined the Monogram sales force in Kansas City.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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Industry in WPB Talks on Reconversion

Justice Dep't Places Limitations on Action

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Participation of the War Production Board's motion picture industry and theatre advisory committees in the planning of industrial demobilization and reconversion has been given the green light by the Department of Justice, but specific limitations have been laid upon the participation of industry representatives in program planning and other activities of the Board.

In a letter to John Lord O'Brian, WPB general counsel, who had asked for an expression of his opinion, Attorney-General Francis Biddle held that mere consultation between the Board and its committees will not constitute a violation of the anti-trust laws, but warned that "consultation does not involve the determination by the industry advisory committee itself of policies, the administration of programs, or the formulation of prob-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Monogram's Releases Set

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—After designating release dates on product for the first six months of 1944-45, Monogram went further at the conclusion of its national sales convention at the Blackstone today by rounding out the final half of the new season. The procedure has some precedent in the industry, but has been applied rarely.

Twenty-seven releases in the six months beginning August were divulged by W. Ray Johnston, company

(*Continued on page 4*)

Meet on Post-War Communications

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Post war television, short wave broadcasting and other communications problems were discussed Friday and yesterday at meetings of some 200 representatives of the communications industries and officials of the State Department and other Federal agencies.

Francis C. De Wolf, chief of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Arbitration Award Boosts SPG Wages Salary Minimums

Publicists employed by Paramount, Warner Bros., M-G-M, United Artists, Universal, RKO Radio, Columbia, and 20th Century-Fox in New York will receive a five per cent wage increase, merit increases in some instances, and will have the minimums in their job classifications raised as a result of an award handed down by the American Arbitration Association at the weekend in a long-standing contract dispute between the Screen Publicists Guild and the major companies. Publicists employed by the Marcus Loew Booking Agency and the RKO Service Corp., are also included in the award. Provisions of the award must be submitted to the War Labor Board before they become final.

Under a general job progression plan promulgated by SPG last Sep-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Ask 3-Month Delay Of Schine Trial

Trial of the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, scheduled to be resumed in U. S. District Court at Buffalo tomorrow following an adjournment of several months, will probably be postponed at least until October on motion of Willard McKay of the defense counsel, who will appear before Judge John Knight today to argue a motion for further adjournment.

McKay's action will be based upon the illness of Saul Rogers, one of the attorneys associated with him on the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Industry Plans to Protest Spain Levy

The organized industry is planning a protest through the State Department on the new import duties which were recently imposed by the Spanish government and which the industry views as discriminatory, Carl E. Milliken, MPPDA foreign manager, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Friday.

The schedule of some of the new imposts, as well as other film taxes levied, were carried in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of Aug. 9.

Agree on Easing Army Politics Ban

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Amendments designed to deal with the problem arising out of the political ban in the soldier voting act will be introduced in the Senate this week as a result of a conference between Army and Navy officials and Senators Green and Taft of the Senate Elections Committee Friday.

The meeting and the decision to seek immediate and adequate relaxation of the law was prompted by the War Department's rejection last week of "Wilson" and "Heavenly Days" as unsuitable for distribution to servicemen because of their political content.

The major requirement of the amendments is expected to be that the services make their selections so that the political views expressed in magazines, films and broadcasts shall be equally divided between major opponents.

4,908 Theatres Report $403,236,232 Bond Sale

With reports tabulated from 4,908 of the estimated 9,000-odd theatres which participated in the industry's effort in the Fifth War Loan Drive as official U. S. Treasury Department issuing agents, 1,633,030 bonds with a maturity value of $403,236,232 were sold during the drive, according to the latest figures available at the office of Robert J. O'Donnell, national film industry chairman.

Of the total, war bond premieres accounted for 1,216,564 bonds with a maturity value of $234,599,403; childrens' bond premieres were responsible for the sale of 156,489 with a maturity value of $16,908,790; and Free Movie Days sold 99,254 with a maturity value of $11,349,551.

It was learned at the weekend that reports have now come in from about 5,100 theatres. In an effort to spur the submission of final reports, film salesmen in all territories were assigned lists of theatres which have not yet responded, and during the week they will personally visit and contact these theatres. The salesmen are armed with batches of report cards sent out from national headquarters last week.

Decree Trial Preparations Are Launched

Attorneys Anticipate Prolonged, Complex Job

Counsel for the five consent decree companies, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, late last week began preparations for hearings and possible trial of the Department of Justice petition for amendment of the consent decree which, among other things, would require divorcement of affiliated theatres within three years and would make it mandatory for distributors to offer their pictures individually. The Department's petition was filed in U. S. District court here a week ago.

Preparations for trial of the Department's action were initiated, it was learned, more in recognition of the huge amount of work and time which are involved than in anticipation of any early court action on the petition itself. In this connection, it is pointed

(*Continued on page 4*)

WPB Weighs Stock Cuts

As a result of the acute raw stock film situation whereby the industry is being compelled to accept a 20 per cent cut in film allocation for the third quarter ending Sept. 30, War Production Board officials in Washington are planning to review stock shipments to foreign countries with a view to effecting possible stock savings in that direction, it was learned at the weekend.

Since the industry is being reduced

(*Continued on page 4*)

Universal's Voting Trust Is Dissolved

The voting trust for Universal which was set up at the time J. Cheever Cowdin's Standard Capital Corp. acquired a controlling interest in the company from the late Carl Laemmle in 1936 was dissolved last week, approximately 18 months in

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

HERMAN STERN, head of Universal non-theatrical department, will observe his 29th anniversary with the company next Saturday.

•

SCOTT R. DUNLAP, Monogram producer, will arrive from the Coast today, accompanying Steve Broidy and other home office officials from Chicago, where they attended the company's convention over the weekend.

•

RUDOLPH BERGER, M-G-M district manager at Washington, D. C., is pinch-hitting at Charlotte for Benn H. Rosenwald, vacationing branch manager there.

•

ARTHUR SCHWARTZ of the Schwartz & Frohlich industry law firm has been named Republican State chairman for New York.

•

JUNE HAVOC, recently signed by Edward Small for "Brewster's Millions," has invited the press to a "coming out party" at her home today.

•

ENRICO DE ENZIO of Warners' foreign department is the father of a son born to MRS. DE EZNIO here Thursday.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will leave for Philadelphia tomorrow.

•

HARRY BLAIR, PRC advertising-publicity chief, spent the weekend in Connecticut.

•

FRANK ROSENBERG, Columbia director of advertising and publicity, will leave today for a vacation.

•

SIDNEY SCHRIEBER of the MPPDA will return from vacation today.

•

PEGGY MAHONEY of the Universal publicity department is vacationing.

Dispute Delays Start Of Mexico Production

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 13.—Although the conflict within the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union that held up production for 17 days prior to last Wednesday is regarded officially as settled, work on the 32 films in process has not yet been resumed. Responsible for the new delay are difficulties between the laborites and producers, with the latter demanding modifications in the agreement on working conditions and also, according to the employes, refusing to recognize the directors' union. An appeal to the president of Mexico is expected to be made in an effort to settle the dispute.

Drop Suit Over Coburn

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 13.—The Columbia-20th Century-Fox suit arising from the conflict in commitments for the services of Charles Coburn was stricken from the calendar Friday by Judge E. H. Wilson on the request of Columbia counsel, who said an out-of-court settlement is in negotiation.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ANY action by the Government to bring its proposals for amendment of the consent decree before the Federal court here within a matter of months would come as a distinct surprise to many home office distribution officials and decree company attorneys, if their informal comments on the Department of Justice action of last week may be taken at face value. No action whatever is contemplated by the companies themselves for the time being.

The Department's move, as it stands, constitutes more an item of record than of action. Until the Department takes the next step, which is to start in motion the legal machinery for bringing the petition on for hearing, that is what it will remain. When that will be done, only the Department can say, but company officials and attorneys believe it may be a matter of months.

•

Behind this view is the realization that the Department of Justice more or less was impelled by the force of circumstances to do something about the decree, and quickly.

The cry had gone up from the defense in the trial of the government's anti-trust suit against the Schine Circuit at Buffalo that, while a subordinate action was being pressed there, nothing whatever was being done about the key government suit here. There are circumstances in that fact that could be prejudicial to the government's case in Buffalo, else the issue never would have been raised. The Department realized it as well as anyone.

Moreover, strategic phases of the decree became unenforceable last Nov. 20, at the expiration of the decree's three-year trial period, and nothing had been done about them in the more than eight months since. The situation left the Department open to a "do nothing" charge in an election year.

There are other reasons, too, why the Department was impelled to do something and do it promptly, not the least of which is the strategic value, while negotiations for a new decree are under way, of asking for a lot more than it expects to get.

In taking the action it did, the Department fortified its current position on all legal fronts. It is free to resume trial of the Schine anti-trust suit, or to open up new fronts, without being accused of completely ignoring its major front. And when it is convenient for it to do so, it can resume action on the major one.

At that time, of course, it will be up to the companies to go into action, but not before then. The Department has, in effect, initiated a petition that the court grant it, without a trial, all of the relief which it originally sought in its New York anti-trust suit, and which, at the time of the filing of that suit, it certainly did not hope to get without a long and arduous court trial.

•

It must not be overlooked that the same course is open to the companies. They have the same right that the Department has to draw up a petition which incorporates the most favorable relief to them which they are capable of envisioning within a consent decree and presenting it to the court for approval. Their chances of getting theirs are about as good as the Department's chances of getting its petition accepted.

The logical conclusion is that the most that will come of it is an attempt by the court, sitting as an arbiter or intermediary, to reconcile the two opposing sides and obtain their acceptance of a compromise decree. Should this fail, presumably there would be no alternative for the Department but to move to have the decree vacated and begin trial of its New York suit or of a new one.

The outstanding fact, however, is that the decision is as far away as it ever was.

• •

Home officials are genuinely concerned about the current raw stock situation. Military demands, they say, are continuing at an unbelievably high level. Eastman was reported last week as not having a foot of film on hand for commercial purposes. Some companies are in a favorable position both as to release prints of new pictures on hand and as to raw stock reserve, should the present emergency be of short duration. Others are faced with the prospect of having to skimp on release prints or miss release dates entirely, and some are contemplating postponement or cancellation of features and serials in the minor brackets.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 13

THE Permanent Charities Committee appointed Charles Koerner chairman of the Los Angeles area War Chest Campaign, Oct. 2-Nov. 9.

•

Allen Rivkin has been signed by Sol Lesser as producer-writer on a term deal to begin Sept. 1. Rivkin's first assignment will be the screen adaptation of the stage play, "Civilian Clothes." Lesser's comedy for United Artists, "3 Is a Family," is now before the cameras with Edward Ludwig directing and Charlie Ruggles and Marjorie Reynolds starring.

•

Warners will produce "Catch a Falling Star," based upon the *Cosmopolitan Magazine* novelette by Ruth O'Malley. Peter Godfrey, who just finished "Christmas in Connecticut," will direct.

•

George Brown, studio publicity and advertising director for Paramount, will leave here for New York next month for the opening of "Frenchman's Creek" at the Rivoli Theatre.

•

20th-Fox gave Maureen O'Hara a new term contract, allowing her to make one feature annually for RKO.

•

Joseph Gershenson, Universal producer, will leave for New York shortly.

Ginsberg, Meiklejohn Due Here From Coast

Henry Gingsberg, Paramount vice-president and general manager in charge of studio production, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood, accompanied by William Meiklejohn, head of the studio's talent department. Ginsberg will confer with home office executives and set up a closer liaison between the East and West Coast talent and story departments. He and Meiklejohn will remain here until the end of the month.

Henry Ginsberg Will Be Guest of Honor at Cruiser's Launching

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 13.—In tribute to the success of the Hollywood Motion Picture War Finance Committee under his chairmanship, Henry Ginsberg will be guest of honor at the launching of the cruiser Los Angeles in Philadelphia, Aug. 20.

Home Offices Close Early Due to Heat

Because of the extreme heat, most home offices closed early on Friday. Warners and M-G-M shut down at 4 P.M., while United Artists closed at 3:30.

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FIRST N. Y. SHOWING AT THE RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL—*OF COURSE!*

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TERESA WRIGHT



The Greatest Romantic Comedy Of All Time

"Casanova Brown"

Directed by SAM WOOD

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production

with

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PATRICIA COLLINGE • Edmond Breon • Jill Esmond

Produced and written for the screen by Nunnally Johnson
From a play by Floyd Dell and Thomas Mitchell

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GOOD ENTERTAINMENT IS INTERNATIONAL!

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KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

WPB Weighs Stock Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

this quarter from its customary 320,000,000 feet of raw stock to 255,000,000 feet by allocations on the basis of the critical needs of the companies, a commensurate cut is being considered for such countries as Mexico, Spain, Sweden, India, Australia, New Zealand and Russia, which are among the countries currently receiving raw stock from the U. S.

According to the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, the yearly consumption of Latin-American countries is estimated at 90,000,000 feet, with Mexico utilizing the major portion, from 40 to 45 million feet. The Latin-American countries have scrupulously adhered to their quotas, frequently failing to draw on their full amounts, it is understood.

Cause for Argentina's Quota

Argentina, which recently set a film quota making it mandatory for exhibitors to devote 25 per cent of their playing time to native product, is believed to have been prompted to this action partly in retaliation for being cut off from American raw stock supplies.

Australia and New Zealand are estimated to utilize 50,000,000 feet of stock. Large quantities of base stock are shipped to England, where the processing is completed.

It is believed that the Latin-American countries would accept a cut in their raw stock allocations with good grace, for they are fully aware of the debt that they owe the U. S. for the development of their own industries.

Representatives of the 11 distributors are scheduled to meet today to continue discussion of the situation, during which they will submit data on their requirements for this quarter.

Meet on Post-War Communications

(*Continued from page* 1)

telecommunications division, told the industry representatives of the aims of the State Department to streamline and modernize the Madrid Communications Treaty of 1932 to take into consideration the great developments of the past 12 years.

Last week's meetings were designed to lay the groundwork for international conferences, the first of which may be held in Rio de Janeiro next Spring, out of which may come a world telecommunications union. The allocation of frequencies and the prevention of interference are major problems which must be dealt with, particularly in view of the development of television.

A recommendation of the interdepartmental radio advisory committee for the abolition of the present international short wave service system to make room for television, frequency modulation and other services aroused considerable opposition from representatives of that branch of the industry.

A number of suggestions for postwar communications were offered, among them a proposal to appropriate all German, Italian and Japanese short wave stations for use by the United Nations.

Decree Trial Preparations Are Launched

(*Continued from page* 1)

out, the regular court term does not reopen until Oct. 2 and, meanwhile, Department attorneys most likely to prosecute the petition will themselves be engaged in preparations for the resumption of trial of the Schine Circuit anti-trust suit in Federal court at Buffalo either this month or early in the Fall. Moreover, it is not believed that the Federal court here will unduly hasten the start of hearing of an action which may require the better part of a year, or longer, to try.

Decree company counsel, however, are anxious to prepare their case as promptly as possible, both because of the time which will be required for preparation and in order to be ready for any eventuality which might bring on a hearing of the Department's petition earlier than might reasonably be expected.

Guidance for Decree Counsel

In so doing, they are being guided by Section 23 of the decree, under which the Department's petition was filed. The pertinent paragraph of the Section reads:

"Any application by any party to this decree under the provisions of this Section shall be made in open court upon notice to all of the other parties to this decree, and each such party, upon such application, shall have the right and privilege of requiring the production of witnesses upon whose testimony such application is sought or opposed, and of examining or cross-examining such witnesses in accordance with the rules of the Court."

Individual company counsel conferred on preparations for trial with company executives last week. The attorneys are scheduled to meet tomorrow for a second joint conference, the first having been held last Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the Department has taken no further action in the direction of obtaining a hearing date for its petition.

Universal's Voting Trust Is Dissolved

(*Continued from page* 1)

advance of expiration of the 10-year period for which it was established originally.

The permanent character of the company's present management, headed by Nate J. Blumberg, president, and Cowdin, chairman of the board, together with the highly satisfactory operating results of the past several years, are described as having made possible the dissolution of the voting trust. Universal's voting trust certificates have been withdrawn from trading on the New York Curb Exchange as a result and holders have been requested to exchange their certificates for Universal common stock on a share-for-share basis.

Voting trustees were: Cowdin, J. Arthur Rank, Charles R. Rogers, Daniel Shaefer, Pitavio Prochet, Preston Davie and Paul Brown.

Monogram's Releases Set

(*Continued from page* 1)

president, in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Aug. 1, at which time he promised to name the last half at the Chicago convention. The detail:

"Gang War," Feb. 3; western comedy-drama with Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton, Feb. 3; "John Dillinger, Mobster," Feb. 17; "Dragon's Son" with Ducky Louie, Feb. 24; a Cisco Kid with Duncan Renaldo, Feb. 24.

An East Side Kid picture, March 3; "Divorce" with Kay Francis, March 10; western with Brown and Hatton, March 17; a Charlie Chan with Sidney Toler, March 24; a Saddle Pals western with Jimmy Wakely, Lee White and Dennis Moore, March 31.

"Rhythm Range," with N. T. G. and His Girls, April 7; "Jungle Fear" with Acquanetta, April 14; "The Honest Gambler," April 21; western with Brown and Hatton, April 28.

A Cisco Kid with Renaldo, May 12; "Sunbonnet Sue," May 26.

An East Side Kid, June 9; western with Brown and Hatton, June 16; "The Shadow," June 23; a Saddle Pals film, June 30.

A Kitty O'Day with Jean Parker, July 7; a Charlie Chan, July 14; another with Acquanetta, July 21; western with Brown and Hatton, July 28.

A Cisco Kid, Aug. 11; Brown-Hatton western, Aug. 18; an East Side Kid, Aug. 25.

A Saddle Pals western, Sept. 8; 2nd Brown-Hatton western, Sept. 15.

Ask 3-Month Delay Of Schine Trial

(*Continued from page* 1)

defense, and it is not anticipated that the Department of Justice will raise any objection. McKay will point out that, while Rogers is on the road to recovery, he is still confined to his home and will not be in condition to undertake a strenuous trial before October. Rogers handled the examination of witnesses for Schine prior to the earlier adjournment.

Also because of Rogers' illness, the filing of an appeal in the Prefect Theatres' anti-trust trial against a number of distributing companies is expected to be deferred until soon before Sept. 28, which will mark the expiration of the 90 days allowed for filing. Prefect's motion for a new trial was denied by Judge Carroll Hincks in U. S. District Court at New Haven, Conn., late in June. McKay explained at the weekend that the press of work which immediately follows an appeal makes it wise to delay doing so until Rogers' health has improved. Judge Hincks took the Prefect case from the jury at the conclusion of the plaintiff's testimony and handed down a verdict in favor of the defendants.

WB Ad Boys Play Ball

Warners' advertising-publicity staff, under Mort Blumenstock, will divide into teams tonight in a soft-ball game at Central Park. Dave Carson and Bob Young have been named captains.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 13.

THE Warner lot will be crowded to capacity this month with seven pictures of the 1944-45 schedule in work and three others to be started shortly. Productions impending include "San Antonio," starring Errol Flynn, Alexis Smith, and Zachary Scott; "Nobody Lives Forever," John Garfield starrer; and "A Night at Tony Pastor's," starring Ann Sheridan, Jane Wyman, Jack Carson and Irene Manning. Already in production are "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Hollywood Canteen," "Objective Burma," "Roughly Speaking," and "The Corn Is Green," starring Bette Davis, as well as "Of Human Bondage," in which Eleanor Parker is doing the role in which Miss Davis achieved stardom.

•

Elizabeth Patterson has been signed by Columbia for a featured role in "A Woman's Privilege," which stars Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer and Charles Coburn under direction of Charles Vidor. . . . Paramount producers Bill Pine and Bill Thomas have signed Charles Arnt to portray a crooked lawyer in "Dangerous Passage," which will co-star Robert Lowery and Phyllis Brooks. . . . Robert Clampett, supervisor-director for Warner's cartoon productions, has established an experimental television cartoon studio as part of the setup of Patrick Michael Cunning Teleproductions. Clampett, who retains his Warner affiliation, will develop a technique for both entertainment and commercial purposes.

Industry, WPB Talks On Reconversion

(*Continued from page* 1)

lems which should be the responsibility of the WPB."

"The carrying out of consultations," Biddle added, "should not be considered as implying that members of such committees are authorized to get together and reach an agreed position in anticipation of such consultations. If the members of the committees should themselves privately agree on any plan or program or take part in any such private plan or program involving, directly or indirectly, the production or distribution of commodities, such a plan or program would be subject to the anti-trust laws."

Columbia Directors Vote 50c Dividend

Columbia reported at the weekend that the board of directors, at its meeting Thursday, declared a dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock, payable Sept. 22, to stockholders of record, Sept. 7.

Fined for Obscene Film

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 13.—Robert Branch and Vivian Sellers, convicted last Thursday on a charge of showing an obscene film at the Arcade theatre, were each fined $100 Friday and were sentenced to 30 days imprisonment by Judge Charles P. Johnson, who suspended jail sentence during good behavior.



songs

glamour

gaiety

laughs

romance

all set to RKO's

MUSIC

THE *Show* SURPRISE OF THE SEASON

Big enough in solid entertainment to compete with the best on the current screen!..Fast, flashy and FUNNY!.. Plenty of plot, spicy romance — and swell new songs played by two red-hot bands and vocalized by one of radio's tops!..A PAY-OFF PICTURE FOR SMART SHOWMEN EVERYWHERE!



Phillip Terry

He-man heart-threat . . . a new romantic dream for today's lonesome femmes.

Anne Shirley

New Pin-up champ with a gay glamour thrill . . . She's got what it takes to make you look twice.

5 SONGS ON THE SOLID SIDE:

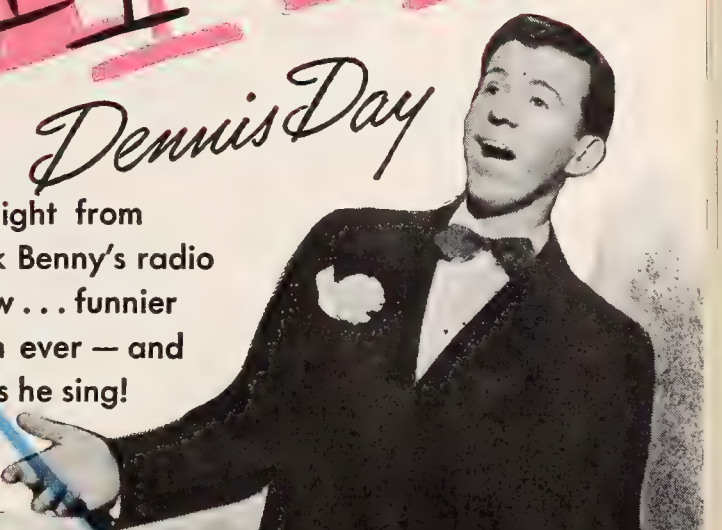
"One Night in Acapulco"—"I Can See You Now"—"Did You Happen To Find a Heart This Morning?"—"I Liked A Man Who Makes Music"—"When Romance Comes Along".

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

MANHATTAN

Dennis Day

Straight from Jack Benny's radio show . . . funnier than ever — and does he sing!



Music in Manhattan

ANNE SHIRLEY · DENNIS DAY · PHILLIP TERRY

with

Raymond Walburn · Jane Darwell · Patti Brill

CHARLIE BARNET and his ORCHESTRA

NILO MENENDEZ and his RHUMBA BAND

Produced and Directed by John H. Auer

Screen Play by Lawrence Kimble

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Production Is Steady, With 50 in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 13.—Production held steady last week as 11 pictures were completed, and 12 went before the cameras. The total number in work was 50, as compared with 49 the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Hello, Mom," with Jane Darwell, Larry Parks, Jane Frazee, Ross Hunter, Loren Tindall, Carole Mathews, Jimmy Lloyd.

Shooting: "Phantom Outlaws," "Tonight and Every Night," "A Woman's Privilege" (formerly "Untitled Dunne-Boyer"), "Dormant Account" (Darmour).

M-G-M

Finished: "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

*Started*s "Gentle Annie," with James Craig, Donna Reed, Marjorie Main, Barton MacLane.

Shooting: "Autumn Fever," "The Clock," "Dr. Red Adams," "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "Ziegfeld Follies."

Monogram

Finished: "Frontier Frame-Up," "Little Devils," "Ghost of Indian Springs."

Started: "The Case of the Missing Medico," with Duncan Renaldo, Martin Garralaga, Gwen Kenyon, Norman Willis, Donna Dax; "Murder in the Family," with Billy Gilbert, Shemp Howard, Maxie Rosenbloom, Jayne Hazard.

Shooting: "They Shall Have Faith," "Army Wives."

Paramount

Finished: "Here Come the Waves."

Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World."

PRC

Finished: "Here We Go Again," "I Accuse My Parents."

Started: "Twin Guns," with Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Guy Wilkerson. "Phantom of Wild Valley," with Buster Crabbe, Al St. John, Kermit Maynard, Elaine Morey.

Shooting: "The Town Went Wild."

RKO Radio

Started: "Two O'Clock Courage," with Tom Conway, Ann Rutherford, June Duprez, Bettejane Greer, Richard Lane, Emory Parnell.

Shooting: "Pan-Americana," "Isle of the Dead," "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International). "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Finished: "Betrayal from the East."

Republic

Shooting: "Lake Placid Serenade," "Faces in the Fog," "Flame of Barbary Coast."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Thunderhead."

Shooting: "Nob Hill," "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," "Winger Victory."

United Artists

Started: "Brewster's Millions" (Small), with Dennis O'Keefe, Helen Walker, "Rochester," Gail Patrick and Garry Moore.

Shooting: "The Great John L" (Crosby); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Finished: "Renegades of the Rio Grande," "The Mummy's Curse."

Started: "Arsene Lupin," with George Korvin, Ella Raines, and J. Carrol Naish; "Musical Roundup," with Martha O'Driscoll and Noah Beery, Jr.

Shooting: "Mike Goes to a Party," "Queen of the Nile," "Can't Help Singing."

Warner

Started: "God Is My Co-Pilot," with Dennis Morgan, Raymond Massey, Andrea King, Alan Hale, Dane Clark, Donald Woods, John Ridgeley, John Alvin. "Pillar to Post," with Ida Lupino, Walter Huston, William Prince, Johnny Mitchell, Barbara Brown.

Shooting: "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

Reviews

"When Strangers Marry"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Aug. 13

HERE is a neat number in the mystery classification. In the light of its budget, "When Strangers Marry" ranks high in its category.

Principal elements contributing to interesting and effective values in suspense are taut and firm direction by William Castle, the man who is directing "The Whistler" series for Columbia, and highly competent black-and-white photography by Ira Morgan. By no means to be bypassed, however, is a series of nicely drawn performances by the cast.

Story facets are occasionally on the fuzzy side and motivations of Dean Jagger, the pursued man, might have been clearer. But this story of a murder and circumstantial evidence, nevertheless, holds together for its length. It deals with the marriage of Kim Hunter to Jagger after short acquaintance and a series of unexplained events and curious actions on his part which lead her to believe finally that he was the silk-stocking killer. The switch comes toward the end when it is Robert Mitchum, her rejected suitor posing as a benevolent friend, who proves to be the murderer. Neil Hamilton as the sleuth is incisive and emphatic; there ought to be more of him in pictures.

This attraction does not rely so much on chilling story climaxes as it does on characterization, incident and mood. It has plenty of all three, drawn from a script by Philip Yordan and Dennis Cooper and brought to fruition by Castle's intelligent handling. King Brothers produced.

Release date Sept. 23. Running time, 76 mins. "G."*

"Three of a Kind"

(Monogram)

WHEEZING Billy Gilbert, Shemp Howard of "Three Stooges" fame and Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom carry this slender production through on the strength of their respective vaudevillian routines. Director D. Ross Lederman has given the trio free rein here, and the result is a comedy in the slapstick vein, mixed with a little pathos at strategic points.

The story deals with young Buzzy Howard whose father kills himself upon learning his wife, Buzzy's stepmother, Helen Gilbert, is unfaithful. Shemp and Billy take over the care of the youngster, and from there on the film is concerned with the guardians' attempts at supporting their charge. Eventually they are employed by Rosenbloom at his restaurant, where cashier June Lang falls in love with Billy. In the meantime, Miss Gilbert, upon learning her late husband left money to the boy, schemes to gain custody of the child, but she is foiled by Gilbert, Howard, Rosenbloom and Miss Lang. Billy, who with Shemp lands a radio job, marries Miss Lang, and they adopt Buzzy.

Screenplay was by Earle Snell and Arthur Caesar. Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz produced with Barney A. Sarecky as associate.

Running time 67 mins. "G."* Release date, July 22.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Cooling Systems Hold Up During Heat Wave

BOSTON, Aug. 13.—This city came through the heat wave successfully with all air-conditioning plants in film houses working full-time. No breakdowns were experienced through the two weeks of intense heat.

Neighborhood theatres, including the Circle, the Coolidge Corner and the Allston Capitol utilized various types of systems ranging from the Circle's modern Freon plant to giant electric fans and cooling systems of an older type.

Tom Wall, manager of the Circle; Joe Marquis of the Capitol and Jack Markle of the Coolidge Corner reported receiving votes of gratitude from residents of Brookline, Brighton and Allston for their part in keeping the respective populaces comfortable.

Arbitration Award Boosts SPG Wages Salary Minimums

(*Continued from page* 1)

tember, which provided for upgrading of publicists and wage increases based on their length of service and experience, the minimums asked were $25-$34 for apprentice publicists; $40-$49 for associate publicists Grade I; $55-$70 for associate publicists Grade II; $80-$90 for associate publicists Grade III; and a minimum of $115 a week for publicists. Further, the SPG sought the balance of the 15 per cent wage increase permitted under the Little Steel Formula since having received a 16 per cent wage increase at the signing of the first two-year contract in May 1942. Minimum salaries under the original contract were $25 for apprentices; $40 for associate publicists and $65 for publicists.

The award covers the renegotiation of the wage clause in the SPG contract with the companies for the period of May 4, 1943, to May 3, 1944, as well as the renegotiation of a new contract retroactive to last May 4 and terminating May 3, 1946.

Provisions for Increases

According to its provisions, a general increase of five per cent of the average salary for publicists as of Jan. 1, 1941, is ordered for the one-year period starting May 4, 1943, to bring the publicists up to the 15 per cent increase allowable under the Little Steel Formula. Further, merit increases may be granted for the specified 1943-44 period. These are to include the general five per cent increases and are not to exceed the aggregate of $10 per week for those in the "publicist" and "associate publicist" categories and five dollars a week for apprentices. All increases are retroactive to the reopening dates of the various contracts.

Minimums for the various classifications of the publicists are raised to $30-$40 for apprentices; $50-65 for associate publicists; and $70-$90 for publicists. A new classification known as senior publicists is established with a minimum salary of $100 a week.

Under the new two-year contract all non-wage clauses of the 1942-44 contract which expired May 4, are ordered continued, with the exception that all contracts are to be made uniform and are to include the same expiration date.

The arbitrators included Aaron Horvitz selected by the American Arbitration Association, Aaron Schneider named by SPG, and C. J. Scollard of Paramount, designated by the companies. Hearings on the proceedings started last February.

Burnett to St. Louis, Other Loew Switches

Martin Burnett, manager of Loew's Penn in Pittsburgh, has been transferred to Loew's State in St. Louis to replace Rex Williams, recently named exploitation director for United Artists, it was reported at the weekend by Joseph R. Vogel, in charge of out-of-town theatre operations.

Other switches include the transfer of Harry Greenman, manager of the Boston Orpheum, who moves to Pittsburgh. George Kraska replaces him in Boston, while Harold S. Mortin takes over Kraska's post.

Blanket YOUR TARGET!



Take a leaf out of the book of our mighty air force. They don't send a few little planes to take a pot shot or two at an objective. They send their biggest and best—by the *thousands*. Are you sending out your biggest and best Advertising mediums to blanket *your* target? Are you fairly plastering them with super block-busters that tell them what you have to sell now, tomorrow, next week, next month? For a quarter of a century we have been checking, inspecting, improving our Advertising bombsights, increasing the load of our big Ad carriers, building up the bang in our Advertising bombs. The blanketing part of the operation is strictly up to you.

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
July 15	SECRET COMMAND Pat O'Brien Chester Morris Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5008)	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)	ARE THESE OUR PARENTS? Helen Vinson Lyle Talbot D—73 mins. (305)	(Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)		COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN (reissue) Gene Autry O—(3305) SILVER CITY KID Allan Lane O—55 mins. (461)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.			TRIGGER TRAIL O—(8086) JUNGLE WOMAN Evelyn Ankers J. Carroll Naish D—60 mins. (8018) THE MUMMY'S GHOST Lon Chaney D—61 mins. (8039)	(Re-issues) MANPOWER 103 mins. (341) TIGER SHARK 79 mins. (345) THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL 92 mins. (342) THE WALKING DEAD 66 mins. (344) BROTHER RAT 89 mins. (343) POLO JOE 65 mins. (346)
July 22	U BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett D-65 mins.	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425)	THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C—67 mins. (323)	DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325)	FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—60 mins. (465)	SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD D—68 mins. (321)		(July Releases—no definite date set) ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)				
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5007)	MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426)		THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323)	BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Dave O'Brien O—61 mins. (458)	3 LITTLE SISTERS Ruth Terry Mary Lee Cheryl Walker D—69 mins. (325)	(Sixth Block) GILDERSLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426)	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe C—80 mins.	TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin M—62 mins. (8045)	(Regular Release) ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
Aug. 5	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. (5027)	THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427)	WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)	HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322)	MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George D—69 mins. (404)	SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (344)	MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)		ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	
Aug. 12	SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D—(5026)	TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)		GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH Chick Chandler June Clyde D—60 mins. (417)	BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45)	A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)				MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 19	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C—(5012)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)	DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322)	STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429)		(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	
Aug. 26	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida El Brendel C—(421)	PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324)	YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases) TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)		IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Sept. 2	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—(5002)	CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill D—(513) (1944-45)	3 LITTLE SISTERS Ruth Terry Mary Lee Cheryl Walker D—69 mins. (325)	SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)			JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases)		GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins.	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—(402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)	(Ninth Block) (incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins.	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)		GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(551) (1944-'45)	STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505)		MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—(1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins.	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D				MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—(1944-'45) PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—(1944-'45)	

Urges Theatres To Stock Up on Oil

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Exhibitors who heat their theatres with fuel oil are being urged by the Government to buy in as much oil as their tanks will hold "while deliveries can still be made."

Warning consumers to buy oil now, while transportation still is relatively easy, Defense Transportation Director J. M. Johnson at the weekend was pessimistic over the prospects for next winter.

"The shortage of tank cars, scarcity of tank trucks and almost total lack of heavy-duty tires have combined to create a national crisis in petroleum transportation," he explained. Meanwhile, military demands for available gasoline and other petroleum products are mounting.

Transportation of military supplies must and will come first, Johnson declared, with the result that civilians who delay in placing their orders for fuel oil may find that deliveries cannot be made because equipment is tied up in handling military requirements.

"If the situation develops to a point where deliveries of civilian fuel oil cannot be made because of military needs, the person who waits until the last minute to put in his order can blame no one but himself," he said.

'Skeffington' Takes Robust $20,000

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 13.—"The Story of Dr. Wassell" reached $15,900 at the Palace, with "Mr. Skeffington" getting a gross of $20,000 at the Warner.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 12:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
WISCONSIN—3,200 (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PALACE—2,400 (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $11,500)

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
STRAND—1,400 (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $3,050. (Average: $3,500).

"Up in Arms" (RKO)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
ALHAMBRA—1,900 (50c-72c) 7 days, 4th week downtown. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (W.B.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
WARNER—2,400 (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000)

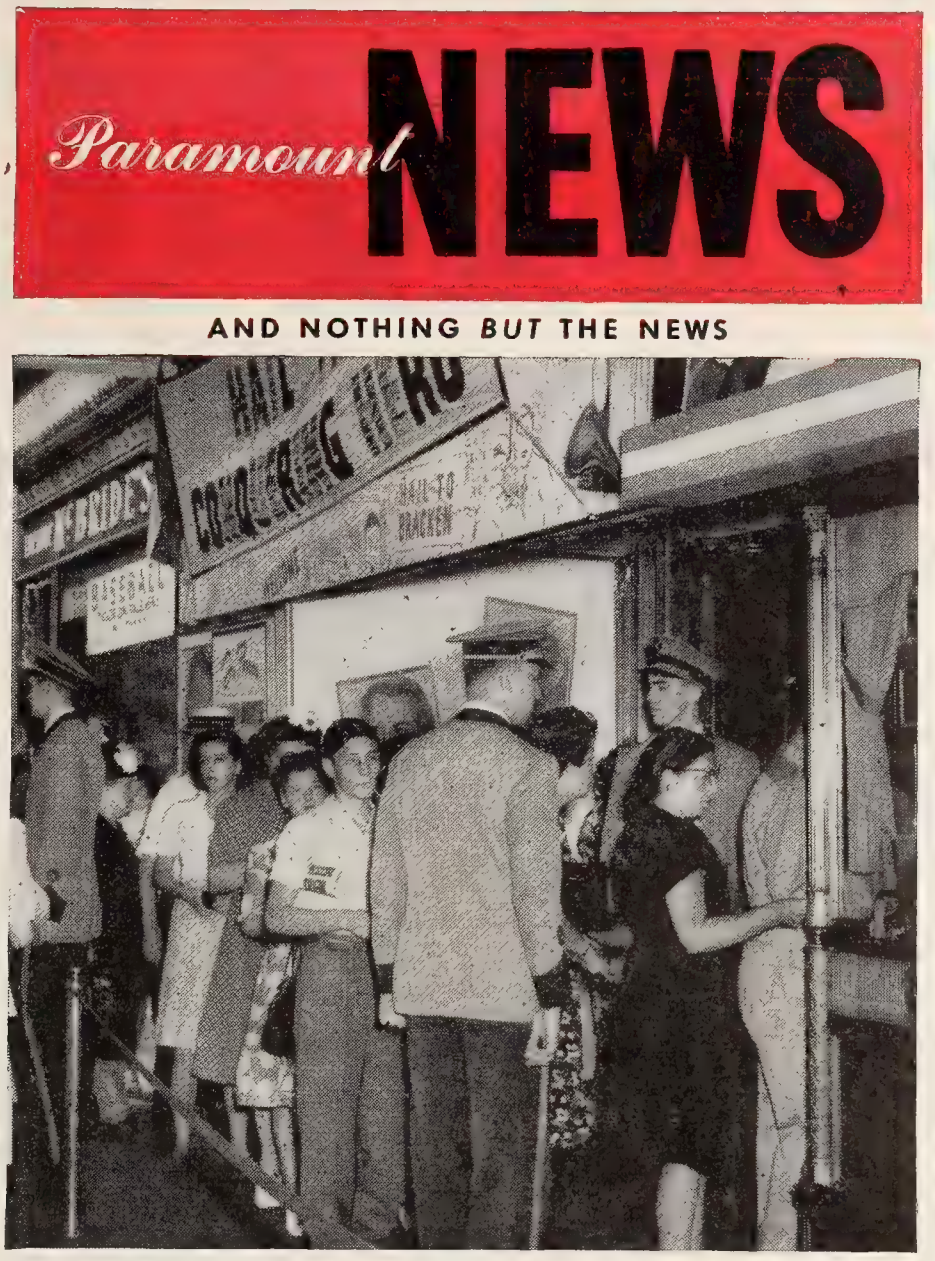
"Song of the Open Road" (U.A.)
RIVERSIDE—2,700 (65c-85c). On stage: Freddy Slack and Band. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

Smoots Rites Held

LITTLE FALLS, Minn., Aug. 13.—Funeral services were held here recently for H. B. Smoots, 68, veteran theatre operator and owner of the local film houses. Many northwest and Minneapolis exhibitors and exchange men attended the last rites. Smoots is survived by a son, Lowell, in the Armed forces, and his widow who will operate the Little Falls theatres.

'Adventure' Set Aug. 19

Artkino's "Adventure in Bokhara," film about Nasredin, legendary Near East folk hero, will open at the Stanley Theatre on Saturday.



"BETTER THAN 'MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK' "IS NEW YORK'S UNANIMOUS VERDICT AS WORLD PREMIERE OF **"HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO,"** TOPS OPENING DAY OF "MIRACLE" AT THE PARAMOUNT BY 1500 ADMISSIONS! NEWEST PRESTON STURGES COMEDY SMASH TAKES TOWN BY STORM, ELICITS UNSTINTED RAVES AS ALL CRITICS HAIL "HAIL"..."FAR FUNNIER THAN 'MIRACLE'" IS MIRROR'S OPINION.."BETTER THAN 'MIRACLE' ON SEVERAL COUNTS " SAYS P.M... DAILY NEWS CALLS IT "HONEY OF A COMEDY"..AND POST SAYS "NO ONE IN HIS RIGHT MIND WOULD MISS IT"!

Warner Sales Drive Winners Due Today

Winners of War Bond awards in Warners' annual sales drive will be announced on the Coast today by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, at an executive sales conference there.

Winners include:

District Managers—Henry Herbel, West Coast; R. L. McCoy, Southern; Norman Ayers, Eastern; Harry Seed, Midwest; Charles Rich, Central.

Branch Managers—Luke Conner, New Orleans; Fred Greenberg, Los Angeles; E. A. Bell, Denver; Al Shmitken, San Francisco; Al Oxtoby, Portland; H. G. Krumm, Atlanta; E. A. Williamson, Memphis; Vete Stewart, Seattle; Clarence Eiseman, New York; J. W. Loewe, Oklahoma City; J. A. Bachman, Charlotte; C. W. McKean, Indianapolis; Doak Roberts, Dallas; Al Herman, Buffalo; Paul Krumenacker, Albany.

Salesmen—Harry Mandel, Chicago; Harry Decker, New York; H. Blass, Minneapolis; Al Grubstick, San Francisco; W. A. Haefliger, Denver; D. Webster, Salt Lake City; C. Galloway, Memphis; Leo Jacobi, New York; R. Bixler, Dallas; W. Gleason, St. Louis.

Awards also were made to bookers and ad accessories salesmen.

Chicago Finds Film Houses Fire-Safe

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—Several minor theatre fires in this area prompted Paul Gerhardt, Jr., Chicago building inspector, to order inspection of all places of public assembly. Film houses, with regard to fire protection, were reported to be in good condition.

Chief John L. Fenn of the fire prevention bureau filed a complaint against a theatre operated by the Uptown Players, claiming fire ordinances had been violated inasmuch as there were no rear exists, no fire curtain and no sprinkler system.

New Loew Publication 'Lo!'; Ready to Go

Plans for the publication of the new Loew-Metro house organ, "Lo!" under the direction of Oscar A. Doob and Mike Simmons, editor of The Distributor, Ernie Emerling and Eddie Dowden, were completed at the weekend, it was reported by C. C. Moskowitz.

The publication will be mailed to Loew's Theatres in and outside of New York and to Loew staff members in the armed forces. Department chiefs have named "floor reporters" to gather material for the sheet.

Jeanne Ansell Gets Heights Theatre

Jeanne Ansell has leased the Heights Theatre, 159 Washington St., Brooklyn, from the I. H. Rosenberg Corp. of New York, through Berk and Krumgold, theatre realtors, it was reported recently. Following renovations the house will show Spanish films exclusively.

Miss Ansell also operates the Manhattan Theatre and the Art in the Bronx, both of which adhere to Spanish productions.

Lusty cheers from our severest critic!

It has become the fashion for a Broadway producer to cast a jaundiced eye at Hollywood's treatment of his play in bringing it to the screen.

I must admit I was somewhat concerned when I heard that **Lester Cowan** planned certain radical changes for the screen version of **"Tomorrow the World."** After all, our play had a record of fourteen months on Broadway and a successful road engagement. It had been hailed by many critics as the best drama of the season. But I have just seen a rough cut of the film version. My concern was needless. The film preserves all the values of an already successful play, and adds tremendous scope and much excitement through the freer medium of the screen. **Fredric March, Betty Field, Agnes Moorehead, Joan Carroll** and **Edit Angold,** represent perfect casting. **Skippy Homeier,** out of our original Broadway cast, even surpasses his great stage performance.

I have wired the authors of the play, Private James Gow and Arnold D'Usseau, that they may throw away the aspirin with which they'd fortified themselves against news from me in Hollywood.

A stage hit of the 1943-44 season, **"Tomorrow the World"** will be an even greater screen hit in 1944-45.

Theron Bamberger

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 31 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Speculation Over U. S. Peace-Shows

Millions Now Seeing War Films Free

With the Government continuing silent on its intentions of maintaining or abandoning its widespread public exhibition, without charge, of so-called "war" films, many exhibitor leaders are understood to be concerned over their peacetime continuance. They cite, as only one example, the 8,000,000 monthly audience which the Army's Industrial Services Division has built up.

While the services division originally set out to exhibit "war-incentive" pictures to workers in war factories only, the showings have spread immeasurably to theatres, tents,

(*Continued on page* 5)

Schine Trial Put Over to Sept. 26

BUFFALO, Aug. 14.—Federal Judge John Knight today put over until Tuesday, Sept. 26, resumption of the Government's Schine anti-trust trial. The trial previously was scheduled to get under way tomorrow morning.

The postponement was announced following arguments on the motion to postpone in Judge Knight's chambers. It was reported that Schine had sought a postponement until Jan. 1, but that Judge Knight refused to consent to so long a delay.

Chief reason for the postponement is the illness of Saul Rogers, chief Schine counsel, who has not recov-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Montreal Grosses Up As Tram Strike Ends

MONTREAL, Aug. 14.—Uptown theatres here, which have undergone box-office declines averaging from 35 to 50 per cent since 4,000 operating employes of the local Tramways Co. went on strike two weeks ago, are anticipating an immediate return to normalcy as a result of the Government's intervention.

Dominion officials appointed two controllers and announced that transportion services would be resumed immediately.

Heat Again Closes N. Y. Film Offices

Several distribution and circuit home offices here, and numerous smaller places sent employes home early yesterday as one of New York's most prolonged heat waves, continued. Temperatures have exceeded the 90-plus mark for several days. Loew-M-G-M, Paramount, RKO, United Artists, Warners and Monogram were among those closing several hours before regular quitting time.

Grosses at Key N.Y. Theatres Hold Up Despite Heat Wave

The current heat wave here is only mildly cutting receipts of downtown New York first-run theatres this week since thousands are going to the air-conditioned houses for relief. The three leaders are: "Wilson" at the Roxy, "Dragon Seed" at Radio City Music Hall and "Since You Went Away" at the Capitol, all continuing to near record grosses. Aided by excellent re-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Army Says 'Wilson' 'Heavenly Days' Haven'tBeenBanned

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Army public relations officials admitted at the weekend that 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson" and RKO Radio's "Heavenly Days," which it had announced last week as being banned for distribution to troops overseas under restrictions of the Soldiers' Voting Law, have not even been considered formally as yet and the announcement of their banning was in error.

The original announcement of the banning of the two films for overseas distribution by the Government was made by the War Department public relations office here. It was stated at the time that the films had

(*Continued on page* 5)

WB to Reveal Its 1944-45 Policies

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 14.—Warner Bros. will reveal its product pool out of which next season's screenings are to be issued; sales and theatre policies are also on the agenda of its four day sales meeting at the Ambassador Hotel here,

(*Continued on page* 5)

27 Finished or in Work For New Season: Depinet

Twenty-seven of the 50 films announced for distribution by RKO Radio during 1944-45 are either completed or shooting, Ned E. Depinet, president, said yesterday upon his return from the Coast, where he conferred with production chief Charles Koerner and the company's independent producers and viewed forthcoming product.



Ned E. Depinet

Depinet declared that RKO would have the greatest backlog of films in its history. In the first group of five, which will be tradeshown Sept. 18-20, will be: "None but the Lonely Heart," with Cary Grant, Ethel Barrymore and Barry Fitzgerald; "Tall in the Saddle," with John Wayne and Ella Raines; Edward A. Goldman's "The Master Race"; "My Pal Wolf," and "Going to Town."

Other product which Depinet saw, together with Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, included: "Experiment Perilous," with Hedy Lamarr, George Brent and Paul Lukas; "The Brighton Strangler," with John Loder; Spitz-Goetz International's "The Belle of the Yukon," with Gypsy Rose Lee and Dinah Shore, and "The Woman in the Window," with Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett; Samuel Goldwyn's "The Princess and the Pirate," with Bob Hope, and "The Wonder Man," with Danny Kaye; and Walt Disney's "The Three Caballeros."

RKO Radio plans to release five features in each new season block, apart from its outside producers, Depinet said. Only one British film, "Hotel Reserve," is planned for the new season's release.

Raw Stock Cut To Continue To Year's End

But Next Cut Seen As Less Than Third's 20%

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The cut in raw stock allocations to be imposed on the industry through the remainder of the third quarter will not be entirely restored next quarter, but reduced allotments somewhere between those of the second quarter and the lowered present quarter will be set, it was learned here today.

Representatives of the industry may be called to Washington the latter part of this week for a discussion of the situation with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board motion picture section. Originally, it was planned to hold this meeting earlier, but it was said it will make no difference in the industry's use of film

(*Continued on page* 5)

Williams Succeeds Longman in OCR

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The War Production Board announced today that Ross Williams, former assistant director of the Service Trades Division of the Office of Civilian Requirements, has been named acting director succeeding Donald R. Longman, who resigned the post last week, as reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 9 and 10.

Longman has been named director of the OCR's planning and research staff, in which post he is expected to

(*Continued on page* 5)

Jos. P. Kennedy, Jr., Killed in Europe

Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., a son of former Ambassador to Britain Joseph P. Kennedy, former head of FBO and Pathe Exchange, was killed as a result of an explosion during an operational flight overseas on Aug. 12. Acknowledgment of the U. S. Navy's telegraphic advice was confirmed today by John Fitzgerald Kennedy, the deceased lieutenant's grandfather, at the family's summer residence in Hyannis, Mass.

Another son, Lt. John F. Kennedy, recently returned to this country from the Pacific where he had been rescued from an isolated island following a mission on a PT boat.

Yes, Sir!

ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS

More of that LAUGH-CASH

HEY MARINES!



your objective is being encircled

Yes sir, it's a two-armed pincers movement! These leathernecks try their commando tactics on Cupid, and it's a howleroo loaded with a million laughs.





EDWARD SMALL Presents

WILLIAM BENDIX
HELEN WALKER
DENNIS O'KEEFE



ABROAD with TWO YANKS

JOHN LODER • JANET LAMBERT with GEORGE CLEVELAND

Based on an original story by Fred Guiol • Adaptation by Edward E. Seabrook and Tedwell Chapman • Screen Play by Charles Rogers, Wilkie Mahoney, Ted Sills • Directed by ALLAN DWAN



Yours from ...U.A.!

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING!
KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

Incidentally, did you see those reviews

-OH, BOY!

Speculation Over U. S. Peace-Shows

(*Continued from page* 1)

public auditoriums, clubs and other places of public assemblage.

The Government, through the Army's industrial division, is now encouraging the extension of these public exhibitions, which, in these times are readily recognized by exhibitors as highly essential to promote the war effort; but many point out the absence of any assurance by the Government that the exhibitions would be discontinued after the war.

Exhibitor concern over the postwar problem has been so strong in England that strong representations were repeatedly made to the British government for a statement on non-exhibitions when the war ends, and which assurance has been publicly made.

Status of Local Auditoriums

Scores of local auditoriums are being used for "family unit shows," so designated by the Government, with "live" talent added to the film program. Many war-contracting factories have taken on mobile theatres and are sending units to surrounding communities. The Government today has more than 300 distribution branches for its films for the Army's Industrial Services.

The Army's services division is producing two subjects a month at Astoria, L. I., under the supervision of Lt. Col. Emanuel Cohen and Major Kenneth McKenna, with Arthur L. Mayer in charge of distribution.

When Mayer assumed the post of industrial film adviser to the War Department at the request of Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War, these films were being seen by some 200,000 war workers a month. They are also being shown to Rotary, American Legion and Chamber of Commerce groups.

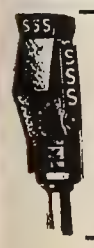
The attendance at Office of War Information films is estimated to be about 6,000,000 patrons monthly in schools, colleges and before women's groups.

Williams Succeeds Longman in OCR

(*Continued from page* 1)

be active in reconversion and postwar planning activities.

It was also announced that Claude Ezell, Dallas distributor, had been appointed consultant on theatre matters to the Amusements and Recreation Section of the Service Trades Division, as previously reported, and will serve on a dollar-a-year basis, coming to Washington at intervals as matters requiring his attention arise.



FILM DUBBING
SCRIPT ADAPTATION
GHOST VOICE
SPANISH-PORTUGESE-FRENCH
Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

Grosses at Key N.Y. Theatres Hold Up Despite Heat Wave

(*Continued from page* 1)

views in New York newspapers, "Hail the Conquering Hero" is doing impressive business at the Paramount and "Janie" is registering satisfactorily at the Strand.

Business at the Music Hall, on the fourth week of "Dragon Seed," plus a stage show, will be equal to that of the third week with $73,000 recorded on the first four days ending Sunday night and $121,000 expected for the fourth period, to give the theatre a record four-week take of almost $495,000. "Wilson" and a Fred Waring stage show at the Roxy are headed for $148,000 against the initial week's gross of $155,000, both of which included Federal admission tax collections. Other B'way houses do not include the tax in their estimates.

'SYWA's' $80,000

"Since You Went Away" and a Gene Krupa stage show will end a fourth week at the Capitol with approximately $80,000, following a third week's take of $83,790. The initial week's gross at the Paramount for "Hail the Conquering Hero" and a stage bill featuring Vaughn Monroe and band will hit a substantial $80,000, which, though below the opening week's total of "Going My Way" and "Lady in the Dark," is nevertheless, impressive since the former has no outstanding marquee names. The second week of "Janie" and Tommy Tucker with a band stage show at the Strand are expected to bring in $42,000 on the basis of weekend business of $21,000.

'Dr. Wassell's' 10th Week

The 10th week of "The Story of Dr. Wassell" brought the Rivoli about $26,000, and the film will continue. Business is holding up at the Hollywood where "Mr. Skeffington" is headed for $19,000 in its 12th week which is about equal to the 10th week's figure. "Doughgirls" will open at the Hollywood on Aug. 30, giving "Mr. Skeffington" 14 weeks at that theatre. The seventh week of "Bathing Beauty" is expected to give the Astor a modest $13,000. M-G-M's "Kismet" will open there Aug. 22.

A satisfactory $19,000 is expected for the third week of "Step Lively" at the Palace with the film expected to continue for several more weeks. RKO's "Youth Runs Wild" will follow. "The Canterville Ghost" is continuing to good business at the Globe with $18,500 expected in the third week to follow a second week of $22,000. Twentieth Century-Fox's "Wing and a Prayer" will open at both the Globe and the Gotham on Aug. 30. "Ghost" and "Dead End," reissued, at the Gotham, are expected to get $5,600 on a seventh week.

"Atlantic City" at the Republic Theatre (formerly the Manhattan) is headed for a mild $10,000 in its first week on the basis of weekend business of $3,100. "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" will get upwards of $12,000 in a second and final week at the Criterion after an initial week's gross of $15,500. Universal's "In Society," new Abbott and Costello film, will open at the Criterion tomorrow.

"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" is headed for a quiet $8,400 in its first week at the Victoria and it will hold, with "These Are Our Parents" to follow. "Wilson" will probably open at the Victoria on Sept. 13. "Cry of the Werewolf" is scoring neatly at the Rialto with $10,000 expected for the first week; it will hold.

Raw Stock Cut To Continue To Year's End

(*Continued from page* 1)

since the companies have known for some days how they would be cut and have been preparing their retrenchments.

It was disclosed today that the industry is not being called upon to bear the full burden of the cut in consumption necessary to meet the lessened availability of raw stock occasioned by increased military demand and Summer slow-down in output. The Army and Navy, Office of War Information and export requirements all have been pared it was said, and there were intimations that the deficiency in supplies was so great that the industry alone could not have borne it without serious disturbances.

While the film manufacturers shortly will begin to increase their production, it is not believed that they will be able to develop inventories by Oct. 1 which will permit the assignment of fourth-quarter quotas to the industry at second-quarter levels. More likely, it was said, the fourth-quarter quotas will split the difference between second and third-quarter consumption, with increases to be made later on in the quarter as the stock position improves.

WB to Reveal Its 1944-45 Policies

(*Continued from page* 1)

beginning this morning, and possibly extending through Friday. Benjamin Kalmenson heads distribution and Joseph Bernard the theatre sessions with total attendance of about 50 including all distribution district and branch managers. The New York group includes Roy Haines, Norman Moray, Arthur Sachson, Sam Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Clayton Bond, Howard Levinson, Harry Kalmine, Harry Goldberg. District managers include Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, Robert Smeltzer, Wolfe Cohen, Harry Seed, Henry Herbel.

Other representing distribution are Charles Rich, R. L. McCoy, Hall Walsh, Clarence Eiseman, A. J. Shumow, George Horan, William Mansell, F. D. Moore, A. Herman, Joe Kaliski, J. S. Ambrose, Al Oxtoby, Al Shmitken, Earl Bell, Pete Stewart, Earl Dalgleish, Sam Pearlman, Joseph Plottell, G. A. Matthews, R. C. Borg, A. W. Anderson, Corval L. McKenzie, Don Woods, Robert Dunbar, H. G. Krumm, Ed Williamson, Lester Bona, F. J. Hannon, Doak Roberts, J. W. Loewe, Luke Connor, Carl Goe, Fred Biersdorf, R. S. Smith, John Bachmann, William Gordon, Fred Greenberg. Theatre zone managers attending include M. A. Silver, James E. Coston, I. J. Hoffman, C. J. Latta, John J. Payette, Ted Schlanger and Nat Wolfe.

Schine Trial Put Over to Sept. 26

(*Continued from page* 1)

ered sufficiently from a recent operation to make the trip to Buffalo. Attorney Willard S. McKay represented Schine at the adournment hearing this morning.

Within the next two weeks, according to a court order, Schine must file answers to a Government request for admission of fact and a bill of particulars. Also within two weeks, Schine must make certain additional office documents available to the Government for inspection.

Meanwhile, George L. Grobe, U. S. Attorney for the Western district of New York, who brought the original anti-trust action against Schine, remained in critical condition in General Hospital, Jamestown, N. Y. Grobe was injured last Friday when his auto left the road and overturned near that city. He had been there for the Jamestown term of Federal Court. His condition is described as "poor."

'Wilson', 'Heavenly Days' Not Banned

(*Continued from page* 1)

not been reviewed by the Special Services division, charged with passing upon published material and motion pictures which might influence the soldier vote, but that the two films had been banned on the basis of a report made by members of the Special Services who had seen the films in New York.

The Department's weekend announcement stated: "Upon investigation by the Bureau of Public Relations it is found that only informal discussions of the pictures have taken place. No occasion has yet arisen for the War Department to determine whether these particular pictures are available or eligible for showing to troops." The statement, issued following a lengthy conference of high officers on Saturday, added that "information which reached the press (concerning the banning of the films) . . . was in error."

STEEL PIER
ATLANTIC CITY
For Sale
$1,500,000

Attendance to date, 66,000,000. Five theatres, all air-conditioned. Big ballroom. Open-air stadium; 50,000 sq. ft. exhibit space. All one structure, 100% sprinklered, 150 ft. Boardwalk frontage, extending ½ mile to sea.

Contact FRANK GRAVATT, Atlantic City, N. J.

NOTE! CHANGES IN M-G-M TRADE SHOWS!

NEW DATES FOR NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY AND LOS ANGELES TERRITORIES ONLY FOR

"KISMET"

NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY TERRITORY

M-G-M SCREENING ROOM · 630 NINTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY

MONDAY, AUGUST 21st · 9:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M.

(With 'Waterloo Bridge' previously advertised for this date)

LOS ANGELES TERRITORY

Boulevard Theatre · 1615 Washington Blvd., Los Angeles

MONDAY, AUGUST 21st · 2:30 P.M.

●

NEW DATE FOR LOS ANGELES TERRITORY ONLY FOR

"WATERLOO BRIDGE"

20th-Fox Screening Room · 2019 South Vermont Ave., Los Angeles

MONDAY, AUGUST 21st · 10:30 A.M.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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VOL. 56. NO. 32 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1944 TEN CENTS

WB Lists 79 Properties to Draw for 1945

Jack Warner Names All Properties in Pool

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 15.—Warner Brothers will not be committed to any set number of releases for 1944-45, nor will the management decide at this time whether there will be more or fewer releases than the approximately 19 to be delivered this season, but from whatever total is eventually determined the company can draw from a "product pool" of 79 properties which were named here today by Jack L. Warner to a



Jack L. Warner

(*Continued on page* 10)

9 Named for 6th War Loan

Nine independent exhibitors have accepted appointments as co-chairmen of the industry's participation in the Sixth War Loan.

The co-chairmen, who will meet shortly for preliminary discussions on the all-out industry effort, are: William J. Crockett, president of the MPTO of Virginia; Hugh Bruen, treasurer, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; Jack

(*Continued on page* 9)

Senate Modifies Soldier Film Ban

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The Senate today adopted a modification of the political ban of the Soldiers' Voting Bill sponsored by Senator Theodore Francis Green of Rhode Island, designed to insure the distribution to the Armed Forces of any motion picture having general circulation in the United States.

Without opposition, the Senate ap-

(*Continued on page* 9)

$5,048,951 Warner Net for 9 Months, 15% Cut by Taxes

Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., and subsidiaries report for the nine months ended May 27, a net operating profit of $5,048,951 after provision of $850,000 for unrealized losses on fixed assets (on sales contracted for prior to or subsequent to May 27, but not consummated at that date), less estimated tax benefits resulting therefrom, as compared with a net operating profit of $5,714,392 for the corresponding period in 1943.

This is equivalent to $1.36 per share on the 3,701,090 shares of common stock outstanding, compared with $1.46 per share for the corresponding period last year, after provision for dividends on preferred stock.

Although Warners' gross income for the nine months ended May 27 amounted to $105,839,366, an increase of about 10 per cent over the $97,518,625 reported in the corresponding period last year, increased taxes cut

(*Continued on page* 10)

To Show 'SYWA' at Regular Admissions

United Artists will sell David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away" to exhibitors at regular admission prices, according to a joint statement issued here yesterday by Carl Leserman, UA general sales manager and Neil F. Agnew, vice-president of Selznick's Vanguard Films.

In announcing the policy, Leserman

(*Continued on page* 9)

New Trucks Needed By N. Y. Carriers

State and Long Island film delivery services in New York will shortly seek authorization from authorities in Washington with the aid of Claude R. Collins, War Activities Committee representative there and H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, for the purchase of five additional K-7 heavy duty delivery trucks.

State received two such trucks in June but the present equipment of both services requires replacements if efficient delivery service is to be maintained for the more than 1,200 theatres in this exchange area.

Sears Sets Deal With Rank: Is Enroute to U.S.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists' vice-president in charge of distribution is enroute to New York after several weeks of negotiations with J. Arthur Rank which has led to a provisional deal by which UA will handle American distribution of a minimum of 10 of Rank's present British films.

Accompanying Sears are David H. Coplan, UA managing director in Great Britain, and Dr. Alexander Galperson and Barrington C. Gain, Rank distribution representatives. At the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Sudekum Plans Expansion; Theatre Boom in Canada

NASHVILLE, Aug. 15.—Crescent Amusement Co., according to Tony Sudekum, president, has plans for considerable expansion of its theatre operations in Nashville just as soon as Federal construction restrictions are lifted. The major item will be the construction of an uptown house in the Warner Building, on which Sudekum holds a long-time lease, in a space now used for a parking garage in the rear of the comparatively new building on Church street. This, it is estimated, will cost $750,000 to $1,000,000.

Nashville houses were excluded from the Government's anti-trust suit

(*Continued on page* 9)

TORONTO, Aug. 15.—Theatre building and buying continues at a rapid pace in the Dominion, led by Famous Players-Canadian Corp., largest exhibition group in Canada, together with its affiliates.

Twentieth Century Theatres, an affiliate of Famous Players, today announced plans for construction of a $400,000, 1,200-seat theatre in downtown Toronto, making the third large theatre project for that district announced recently.

Famous Players has also purchased three theatres in Medicine Hat, Alta., the Monarch, Empress and Roxy, from J. H. Yuill, effective Sept. 1.

A partnership agreement has also

(*Continued on page* 9)

Aim of U. S. Is To Restore Restrictions

Decree by Compulsion Sought from Courts

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—Following the Department of Justice's action last week in filing an application in Federal Court at New York for an order to summarily amend the industry consent decree, it was learned here today that the Government is determined to get the industry "back under restrictions." A Department spokesman points out that since the most important provisions of the decree lapsed last November, the five decree companies have been operating without any controls.

It was emphasized, however, that there was no inference that any of the companies has resorted to practices which had been banned under the original decree.

The action asked by the Department, it was revealed, would eliminate

(*Continued on page* 9)

Cite Errors in GoldmanCase

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—Wendell Berge, U. S. Assistant Attorney General, today filed a Government brief in William Goldman's appeal in the anti-trust suit against the distributors and Warner Theatres in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here. The Government has entered the case, originally dismissed from a U. S. District Court action, as an *amicus curae* (friend of the court).

The Government's brief contends

(*Continued on page* 10)

Subpoena Evidence In Schine Case

BUFFALO, Aug. 15.—Federal Judge John Knight today signed an order granting issuance of a subpoena *duces tecum* in behalf of Attorney Willard S. McKay, and the Schine defendants, to be served upon Attorney General Francis Biddle, Wendell Berge, his assistant, and Herbert Borkland, special attorney of the Department of

(*Continued on page* 9)

Personal Mention

JOHN DAVIS, managing director of Odeon Theatres in Great Britain, is due in New York Saturday from London, after a Canadian stopover.

•

EDWARD C. CAHILL, BARTON KREUZER, HOMER SNOOK, H. J. BENHAM and EDWARD STANKO, RCA theatre service and sound executives, will leave the Camden home office next week for a visit to RCA's Indianapolis plant.

•

J. CHEEVER COWDEN, Universal board chairman, who was expected from the Coast yesterday, has been delayed for several weeks due to pressure of business.

•

EVELYN MAE ZAGRANS, daughter of CHARLES ZAGRANS, RKO branch manager in Philadelphia, was married last week to PVT. LEONARD I. MELNICK.

•

SAM COHEN, foreign publicity director of United Artists, and MRS. COHEN are celebrating their 21st wedding anniversary.

•

R. W. BUDD, Warners' personnel director, has moved from Wycoff, N. J., of which he was once the mayor, to Glen Rock, N. J.

•

MRS. DAVE EPSTEIN, wife of the Hollywood publicist, is in New York from the Coast. She is accompanied by her daughter.

•

GEORGE FREEMAN, manager of Loew's Poli, Springfield, Mass., is vacationing in New Hampshire.

•

NAT WOLF, Warner zone manager in Cleveland, will return from the Coast Aug. 23.

•

EDWARD J. PESKAY has left here for Hollywood.

Augment Promotion Staff for 'Wilson'

In order to handle the mounting advance-admission engagements for 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson," the field exploitation staff has been augmented, it was announced at the weekend by Hal Horne, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation.

Exploitation representatives, who will work with district and branch managers and exhibitors, will be supervised by Rodney Bush, exploitation manager, and Jules Fields, assistant manager. Five additional men were dispatched to the West coast, four to the South, four to the Atlantic Seaboard area, three to the Great Lakes, two to the Northeast, one to the Mideast, two to the Midwest and one to the Prairie territory. Jerry Pickman has been named home office exploitation representative in connection with the campaign.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Aug. 15

HENRY GINSBERG takes over company production at Paramount because he was asked to and because responsibility is so deeply ingrained in his makeup that he could not detour around the biggest one yet to come his way. Nor would he.

The unit deals made first with Hal Wallis and later with Buddy De Sylva create a new situation in the production structure there. These twin arrangements are unlike the conditions under which Cecil B. De Mille operates and are apart from the set-up under which Pine and Thomas make their action series.

Wallis, who has scheduled his first for October, and De Sylva, who won't get under way until January, have their own companies, partially financed by Paramount and partially by themselves. They are partnerships, in fact and in deed.

■

In any large production organization where all sorts of personalities operate under the one roof and in Hollywood where the power and the glory are dazzlers never to be discounted, the departure of any company into the unit field is decidedly more of a major affair than surface observation may unearth.

To get the picture it must be appreciated that, until now, Paramount has been building solidly in the direction of accepted, old-line, major company producing operation. It has been the type of system functioning at Metro, Warners and 20th-Fox where every producer works for his company and not as separate entities under partnership agreement.

■

Now it's different at Paramount. Because it is, there is created a new set of conditions. Those conditions can be mercurial, influenced by what Wallis and De Sylva get but which someone else at Paramount may not.

This poses the need for an understanding hand, a careful and diplomatic grip and a constant awareness in order to safeguard and nurture the overall production pattern on behalf of Paramount, the company, of which all hands—partners in units and producers on direct payroll—of course are part and parcel.

■

It is into this new state of untried affairs—for Paarmount—that Ginsberg now steps as general manager of production without contravening his duties as vice-president of the studio corporation. He is aware that a job faces him. He knows the score and, moreover, is confident he knows the method by which he can increase it.

One of the inner studio problems confronting him is an impression, widely or otherwise held, that he is merely taking on another load as he succeeds to the helm. The facts don't square with this idea, however. Ginsberg entered Paramount as a practical production executive, with intimate information of talent values and studio problems and has so functioned alongside Y. Frank Freeman.

■

Probably more so than any other executive, it was Ginsberg who bore directly on the acquisition of De Sylva a little over three years ago. To the man specifically charged with production, whatever credit is handed out properly belongs, and De Sylva rates highly on the basis of his record. But large-scale production, running into eight formidable figures annually, is no one man's job.

Freeman has been there and Ginsberg has been there, both of them closely identified with the course of their company's picture making. The point sought for establishment is that Ginsberg is not a novice to the problems or the difficulties and that, by reasonable indication, his accumulated experience of many years in Hollywood will bear fruit in his broadened field.

■

Of decided immediacy in his view is the manpower equation. He was frank to say prior to his departure for New York that Paramount needs additional producer weight. This is easier to talk or to write about than to bring about, but Ginsberg is alive to the need.

He intends doing something about it.

■

Meanwhile, the lighter side embraces a gag surrounding much hammering and office renovation at the studio. Three adjoining offices are being prepared for occupancy. One by Frank Butler, another by Joe Sistrom, two newly appointed aides, and Ginsberg. Butler's, they say, will be walled with English hunting prints, Sistrom's with smorgasbord and Ginsberg's with matzohs.

He has them for lunch every day.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 15

A CHECK for $2,250 representing funds voluntarily raised by employees of the Warner Bros. studio electrical department to endow a bungalow at the Motion Picture Country Home, has been sent to Jean Hersholt, president of the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

•

Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard will star in "My Favorite Brunette," replacing "Girl's Town" on Paramount's schedule, following Hope's appearance in "Duffy's Tavern."

•

Universal added to its schedule "You're Wonderful," starring Susanna Foster. It will probably be produced in Technicolor.

•

The Cartoon Producers Association will honor Leon Schlesinger, retiring president, at a dinner Thursday night at the House of Murphy.

•

George Brown, Paramount studio publicity director has been given a three-year contract.

Goudge Novel Wins M-G-M Book Award

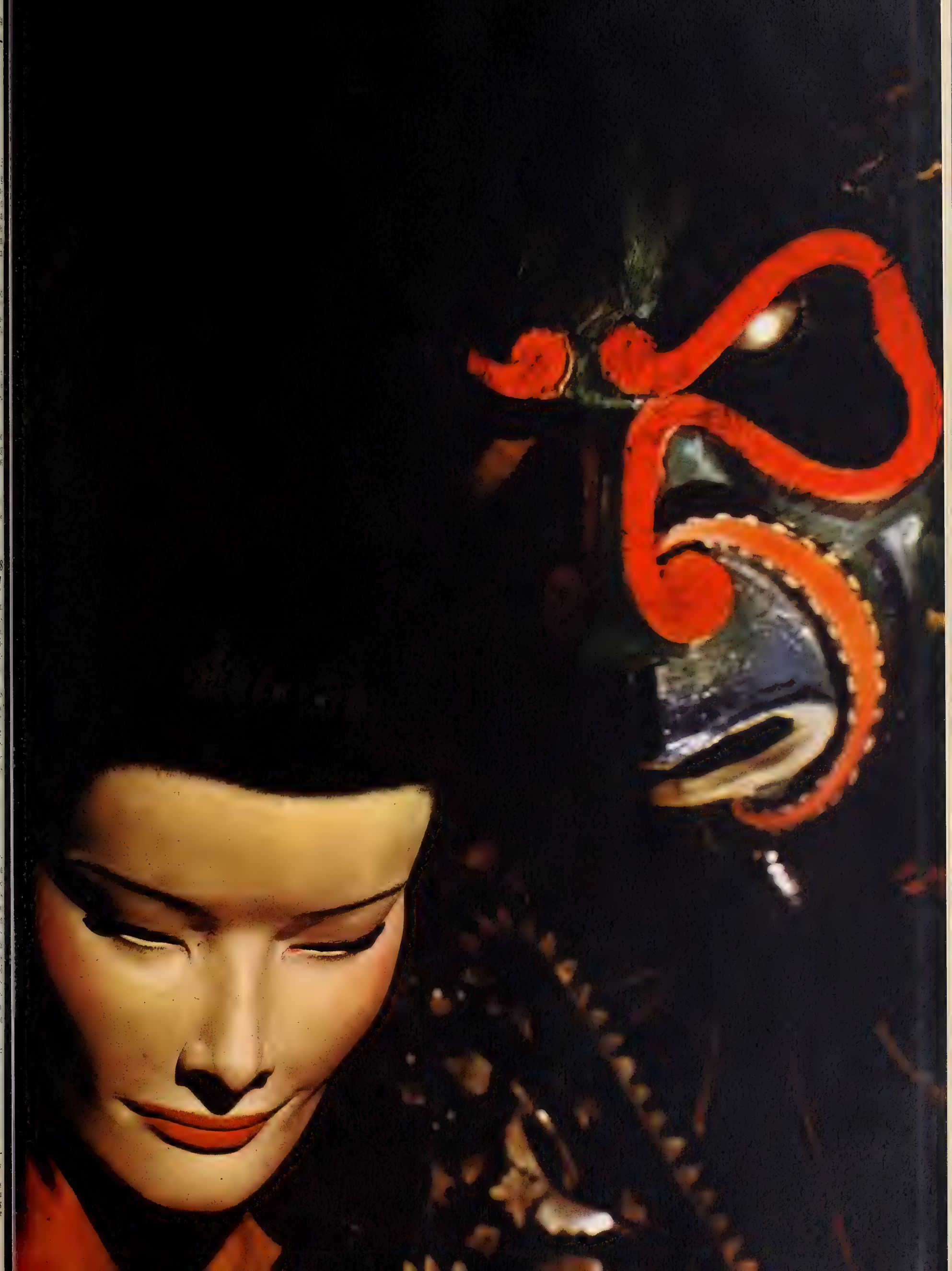
Elizabeth Goudge's novel, "Green Dolphin Street," has been chosen as the winner of the first M-G-M annual novel award and will receive a minimum of $125,000 and a possible maximum of $175,000 contingent upon the sales of the novel.

The book will be published Aug. 28 by Coward McCann and was selected as most outstanding from among 99 novels, all to be published before Aug. 15, 1945. Coward McCann will receive $25,000 on publication and M-G-M will acquire motion picture rights to the book.

85 Exhibitors Fete Dave Bershon

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 15.—Gus Metzger, of Metzger Theatres, has accepted the appointment as chairman of the Southern California War Savings Staff, succeeding Dave Bershon, who was feted last night by 85 exhibitors at a dinner at Perino's Cafe on his retirement from the post he held two and a half years. Charles P. Skouras was toastmaster. The speaker's list included Howard DeMills of the Treasury Department, Hugh Bruen, George Bowser, Marco Wolff, Harry Ochen, George Topper, Mike Rosenberg and William Srere.

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TO THE GLORY OF
THE SCREEN M-G-M
ADDS NEW MAGIC

"DRAGON SEED"

KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON · ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF
TURHAN BEY

HURD HATFIELD · J. CARROL NAISH
AGNES MOOREHEAD · HENRY TRAVERS
ROBERT BICE · ROBERT LEWIS
FRANCES RAFFERTY · JACQUELINE DeWIT

Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and Jane Murfin
Based on the Novel by Pearl S. Buck
Directed by JACK CONWAY and HAROLD S. BUCQUET
Produced by PANDRO S. BERMAN

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924 · 1944
MGM





ON EVERY HAND IT'S "DRAGON SEED"!

Newspapers, magazines, radio sell tickets for your engagement!

"KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!"



TO THE GLORY OF
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A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

PEARL S. BUCK
DRAGON SEED

Pearl Buck's famed novel is on the screen, its thrills captured for all time. Not since "The Good Earth" such a picture.



"I AM JADE"

Katharine Hepburn's performance is her greatest.

A tigress in action, a woman in love.

NEW M-G-M RECORDS AT FAMED RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

"Dragon Seed" breaks M-G-M's top records exceeding "White Cliffs." Another Anniversary production on the way to pack your theatre too!



THIS is M-G-Merchandising! Every promotion outlet shouts "Dragon Seed" to the nation. Newspapers! Magazines! Radio! 24-sheet posters! American Express trucks everywhere! Advance advertising in key-city newspapers radiating to every corner of America. Full-page ads in mass-circulation magazines as well as fan magazines with a total readership of countless millions! Air-announcements over the nation's most powerful transmitters and highly concentrated local campaigns on the radio which tie-in directly with play dates. These are the ticket-selling forces which M-G-M has unleashed for "Dragon Seed," Anniversary triumph!



Aim of U.S. Is To Restore Restrictions

(*Continued from page* 1)

entirely the consent decree under which the companies have been operating since Nov., 1940, and substitute for it a compulsory decree requiring them to comply with the provisions of the court's order.

Meanwhile, no further immediate moves in the Government's action to modify the consent decree are in sight and several months are expected to elapse before the matter is taken up by the New York Federal court, it was here learned.

When the court opens its Fall term next month, a spokesman for the Department of Justice explained, a motion will be filed for a hearing on the Government's application, but both the defendants and the Department will require a number of weeks to prepare their cases.

Revival of Original Decree

The Department is asking for a revival and broadening of the provisions of the original decree which expired last November, plus divorce of exhibition from production and distribution and divesture of circuit-owned theatres in areas where there now is no competition, all as previously.

However, it was said, barring all the legal stratagems which may be resorted to, the court has wide latitude in passing on the Government's application and might grant all of the modifications which the Government has asked or grant some of them and not others. For instance, it was said, the court might grant all of the things requested except divorcement, and might defer consideration of that problem until a later date.

Courses Open to Companies

Several courses of action are open to the companies, the Department spokesman said today. They might ask for an opportunity to negotiate a consent decree, although there has been no indication so far of any intent to do so; they might confine themselves to argument and, upon an agreement by the Government not to press for divorcement at this time, accept the other provisions sought by the Department; or they might elect to present evidence on the issues raised by the Government, in which case the suit would break wide open and a finish fight to a Supreme Court decision precipitated.

Department officials refused to attempt to guess what course the companies will take, but admitted they did not expect to secure divorcement without a bitter fight. As a matter of fact, they said, it is quite possible the distributors will elect to fight the decree all along the line.

So far as the consent decree is concerned, they explained, defendants in any anti-trust civil litigation can always seek a consent decree at any time during the proceedings if the parties will consent to the relief the Government asks. Practically, however, there was no indication today that the companies were considering such a move, Government officials saying there had been no contact with the distributors since the negotiations were terminated some two weeks ago by a letter written by Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark after Attorney General Francis Biddle had rejected the companies' proposals.

It was said that while a motion for a hearing may be filed next month, there is some doubt whether any hearing date will be set before the court formally convenes in October. Ample time will be given the companies to prepare their case, but just when the matter will come up will depend upon the condition of the court's calendar. However, it is quite possible that the actual opening of the case may not come until around the turn of the year.

Sudekum Plans Expansion; Theatre Boom in Canada

(*Continued from page* 1)

against Crescent, presumably because Sudekum himself brought films to Nashville and has had no competition in the intervening 30 years of operation except for one house operated by Loew's.

Another Crescent uptown theatre, the Fifth Avenue, is scheduled for a 'face-lifting' that is expected to cost in excess of $100,000. Crescent has pending in a local court a suit necessary to secure a ten-year lease renewal on this property, now owned in part by minor heirs. A monthly rental of $1,666 for a ten-year term is offered.

Of three new neighborhood theaters to be built by Sudekum, one will be located on Gallatin Road and will be identical with the Belle Meade and the Melrose, combining bowling and billiard parlors with the theaters at a cost of about $750,000. Two other neighborhood houses, not yet located, would run to $100,000 to $150,000.

Sudekum recently placed a bid of $450,000 on the site on Church street now occupied by McKendree Methodist Church and has completed purchase of the adjoining Clifton Apartment house. The church deal has been postponed. The Crescent head has not made public his plans for this site when secured.

(*Continued from page* 1)

been signed by FP-C for the joint operation of the Majestic at New Waterford, N. S., the contract to be extended to a new theatre, the Capitol, when it is constructed in that centre after the war. The circuit's new Paramount Theatre in St. Johns, N. F., is scheduled to open Sept. 1.

FP-C previously announced plans for construction of a large theatre and office building in the downtown Toronto district and Biltmore Theatres, Ltd., plans to erect a theatre on an adjoining site. FP-Cs Imperial, largest theatre in Canada, is situated one-half block distant.

Canadian Warner Bros. has purchased a large site here for erection of a new building to house its Canadian headquarters and Toronto exchange. It is near the site of the previously announced Odeon Building, which will be constructed to house Odeon Theatres, Empire-Universal, Sovereign Film Distributing and General Theatres Corp., Nathanson units. Odeon has also acquired 14 sites for new theatres.

Nine Are Named for Six Loan Campaign

(*Continued from page* 1)

Kirsch, president, Allied Theatre Owners of Illinois; John Rugar of the Intermountain Theatres Association; Henry Reeves, president, Texas Theatre Owners; Al Steffes of Allied Theatre Owners of the Northwest; Leo Wolcott, president, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska; Fred Wehrenberg, president, MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, and Nathan Yamins, chairman of the Executive Committee of Independent Exhibitors of New England.

Harry Brandt, national chairman for the campaign which will begin on Armistice Day, Nov. 11 and run through Dec. 7, the third anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, stated here yesterday that additional appointments to the headquarters staff will be announced soon.

Subpoena Evidence In Schine Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

Justice. The subpoena commands production of documentary evidence now in possession of the Government, in advance of resumption of the trial on Sept. 26.

Judge Knight said he was satisfied the documents asked by Schine are material and relevant. The Government, as a result, must produce any written complaints, statements, affidavits, questionnaires and other communications it has received from all witnesses it will call and from all theatres for which the Department of Justice claims the Schine defendants allegedly have been granted priority and preference.

To Show 'SYWA' at Regular Admissions

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Agnew said, "The response of New York audiences to the film has been enthusiastic and various public opinion polls show that the public wants to see the film as soon as possible." The statement cites Selznick's decision to make the film available to the public as soon as possible and asks for cooperation from exhibitors to accomplish this without the delays which would attend the use of other than regular admission prices.

Previously on July 11, at UA's Eastern sales meeting in New York, Leserman announced that the film would be sold on a policy requiring increased admissions of 50 per cent over regular scales at single-featured performances.

No Relief in WPB Order

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—War Production Board orders authorizing expansion of civilian production where materials, manpower and machinery are available over and above those required for military production will result in no immediate increase in the output of projection or sound booth equipment, it was learned here today.

There is little likelihood of any definite concrete results coming from the order before Jan. 1, due to the persistence of the same factors which have made it impossible for the WPB theatre equipment section to secure production of all the projection equipment authorized under its various programs of the past year.

Important Items Held Up

While lamps and rectifiers are coming through in pretty good volume, it was shown, the more important items are being held up by shortages which the manufacturers are unable to cope with. Thus, projectors are being held up for lack of ballbearings and sound systems cannot be produced because of the shortage of electronic components.

The new WPB order came on the heels of a meeting of WPB officials with representatives of the radio industry, at which it was developed that the next two or three months will be more critical than any period previously faced by the electronic industry. Military production now is at peak levels and while terminations of contracts are anticipated in months to come, it was represented that no reconversion plans should be made until there was assurance that war needs would be met in full as scheduled.

It was made clear today by WPB chairman Donald Nelson that the major effort will continue to be to maintain military production on schedule, and civilian production under the new order will be possible only when materials and components are available in new supply or in idle and excess inventories.

Senate Modifies Soldier Film Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

proved the legislation drafted after a conference last Friday between Senators Green and Robert A. Taft of Ohio and Army and Navy officials and unanimously approved this morning by the Senate Elections Committee, of which Green is chairman.

The only films, books or magazines which would be banned are those which, considered in their entirety, are shown to contain political propaganda designed to effect the election of a candidate for national office.

The revised legislation will also permit the broadcasting of political speeches to troops overseas, the only requirement being that candidates and parties be allowed equal time. The measure now goes to the House, where prompt action is expected.

SITUATION WANTED

Single woman desires position with film exchange or, home office of theatre circuit. Experienced booker, bookkeeper, cashier, typist and publicity. A1 references. Box 230 Motion Picture Daily.

Eastman Kodak Net Up to $9,224,506

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 15.—Reported net profit of Eastman Kodak for the first six months of 1944 totaled $9,224,506, equivalent to $3.66 per share of common stock, after providing for preferred dividends, it was announced here today by F. W. Lovejoy, chairman of the board, and T. J. Hargrave, president. For the similar period of 1943, the net was $8,532,590, or $3.38 per common share.

The company reported net sales and service fees totaling $128,275,296 for the six months of this year, compared with $113,067,043 in 1943, and income from operations totaling $31,109,221, against $25,852,872 last year. Tax provisions this year were $20,850,974, against $15,972,747.

In the first six months, the volume of business of Eastman and subsidiary companies in the Western Hemisphere increased to 12.5 per cent over the similar period in 1943.

Sales to the Government of photographic materials and sales to the Armed Forces of special military apparatus and equipment have continued at very high levels, it was said, whereas photographic goods for civilian use continue to be rationed and it is not expected that increased supplies will be available for the general market in the immediate future.

The company has completed an agreement with the War Department Price Adjustment Board with respect to all its renegotiable business for 1943, under which agreement a refund will be made of approximately the amount provided for in the reserves set up by the company in 1943 for that purpose.

Sears Sets Deal With Rank for UA

(*Continued from page* 1)

same time, it was disclosed here that Edward T. Carr, another Rank representative, is on his way to India to survey that market in line with the world expansion plans of the Rank organization.

The UA deal with Rank must be submitted to the UA board of directors for approval. The board is understood to be scheduled to meet Sept. 5 but it might be convened before then since Dr. Galperson and Gain are coming here for the purpose of concluding the deal set by Sears and Rank. John Davis, Odeon Theatres head, another Rank emissary, who has been touring Canada, is also due to arrive here late this week.

As previously reported, the deal between UA and Rank calls for UA to continue American distribution for Rank until Eagle-Lion Films, Rank's selling company in the U. S. can set up exchanges and start functioning, probably in the post-war. The agreement also calls for one or two quota films to be produced by Rank and be released by UA in Great Britain.

'Japan' at Victoria

"Fortress Japan," produced by the National Film Board of Canada and distributed here by United Artists as part of the World in Action series, has opened at the Victoria Theatre here and will play that house through Aug. 25.

79 Warner Properties to Draw from for New Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

new season's sales and product conference of company executives at the Hotel Ambassador.

Fifteen stage plays, 32 novels, biographies and autobiographies and 32 original stories comprise "the record setting basic product pool from which Warner Bros. will draw its pictures for the coming year," it was announced by Warner.

"National interests, whether of war or peace, will be the dominant factors guiding selection of properties from the imposing pool," Warner told the group later at further conferences at the Burbank studio.

Warner stated that the studio's production schedule would be kept elastic. Pictures best suited to further the war effort, or the peace aims, will be given precedence on the schedule, he said.

Product in the Pool

Pictures based on stage plays in the pool include:

"Janie," by Josephine Bentham and Herschel V. Williams, with Joyce Reynolds, Ann Harding, Edward Arnold, Robert Hutton and Robert Benchley. It directed by Michael Curtiz and produced by Alex Gottlieb; "Arsenic and Old Lace," by Joseph Kesselring, produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, starring Cary Grant and directed by Frank Capra; "The Doughgirls," by Joseph Fields, starring Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith, Jane Wyman, Irene Manning, Jack Carson, produced by Mark Hellinger; "The Animal Kingdom," starring Ann Sheridan, Dennis Morgan, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson and Jane Wyman, directed by Peter Godfrey, produced by Benjamin Glazer.

Plays Before Cameras

Stage plays now before the cameras are:

"The Corn Is Green," by Emlyn Williams, with Bette Davis starring, Irving Rapper directing and Jack Chertok is producing; "Pillar to Post," starring Ida Lupino, Sydney Greenstreet and William Prince, Vincent Sherman directing for producer Alex Gottlieb.

Stage properties in preparation include:

"The Voice of the Turtle," by John Van Druten, to be produced by Alfred de Liagre, Jr.; "Junior Miss," by Joseph Fields and Jerry Chodorov to star Joyce Reynolds; "Broken Journey," by Andrew Rosenthal, to star Alexis Smith and Joan Leslie; "Chicken Every Sunday," by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein, who will also produce; "The Miracle," by Carl Vollmoeller, to be produced by Wolfgang Reinhardt; "Connecticut Yankee," by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, Arthur Schwartz to produce; "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," by Martin Vale, Jesse L. Lasky to produce; "The Wallflower," by Mary Orr and Reginald Denham, to be produced by Lou Edelman; "Dark Eyes," by Elema Miramova and Eugenie Leontovich, to be produced by Jerry Wald.

Other titles include: "Saratoga Trunk," The Conspirators," "To Have and Have Not," "My Reputation," "Roughly Speaking," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Of Human Bondage," "Mildred Pierce," "Nobody Lives Forever," "The Fountainhead," "Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Land I Have Chosen," "Ethan Frome," "Green Eyes," "Happiness," "Hotel Berlin," "Humoresque," "Mississippi Belle," "Monsieur Lambertier," "Night Shift," "One Man's Secret," "Pillars of Society," "Quietly My Captain Waits," "Silent Harvest," "The Time Between," "Escape Me Never," "Danger Signal," "Catch a Falling Star."

Also: "Country Lawyer," "Deep Valley," "Dangerous Marriage," "The Damned Don't Cry," "Rhapsody in Blue," "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Christmas in Connecticut," "Strangers in Our Midst," "Devotion," "Conflict," "The Very Thought of You," "Hollywood Canteen," "San Antonio," "Stolen Life," "A Night at Tony Pastor's," "The Life of Will Rogers," "Night and Day," "This Love of Ours," "Mr. Broadway," "Calamity Jane," "The Devil, George and Rosie," "Don't Ever Leave Me," "The Fat Man."

Also: "The Frontiersman," "Here Come the Girls," "After April," "The Dealer's Name Was George," "Honeymoon Freight," "The Man They Couldn't Kill," "Never Goodbye," "Rendezvous," "Three Strangers," "Time and Again," "Sometimes I'm Happy," "Silver Lining."

$5,048,951 Warner Net for 9 Months

(*Continued from page* 1)

the net operating profit by almost 1 per cent.

Taxes for the nine months listed in the report issued yesterday totaled $14,200,000, against $11,600,000 in the same period last year.

Current and working assets on May 27 totaled $54,929,681, excluding $5,532,440 of current assets of subsidiaries abroad, compared with current liabilities of $31,394,586 and current liabilities of $6,773,828 charged to foreign subsidiaries. Company reported total assets of $192,533,150.

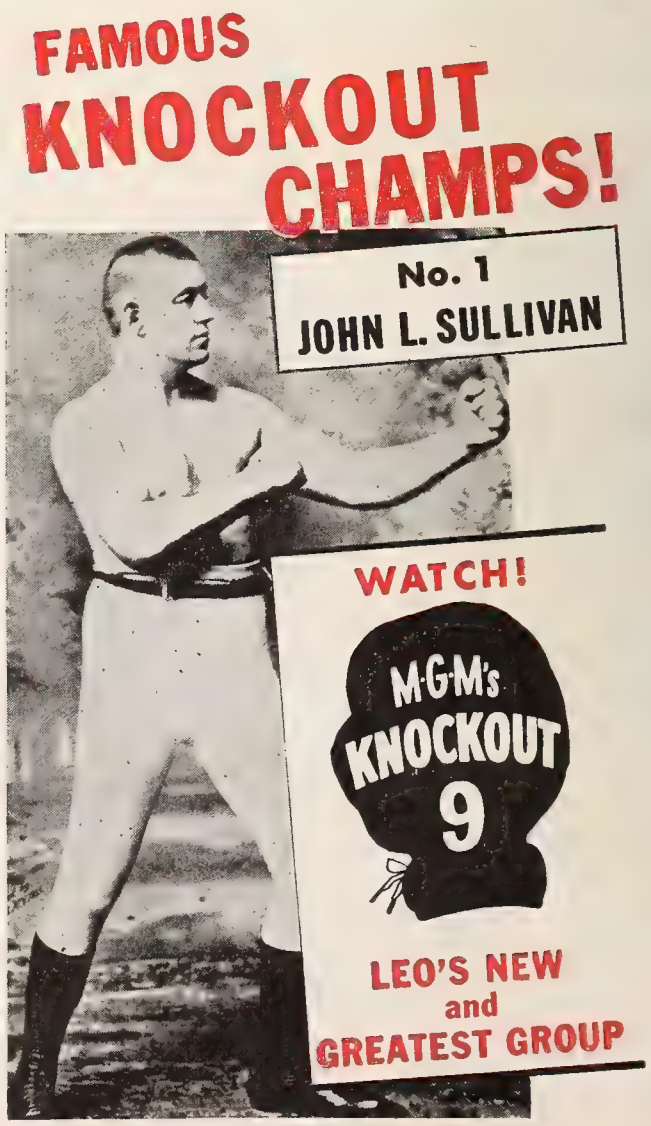
Cite Errors in Goldman Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

that the District Court erred in holding that proof of a lessening of film commerce was necessary to show a violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, in holding that proof of special public damage was required to show a violation of the Anti-trust act by the plaintiff's exclusion from the first-run field, and in concluding that there was no unlawful combination because the distributor defendants acted separately without coercion by Warner Theatres.

Hope, Troupers, Safe

Bob Hope, with Frances Langford, Jerry Colonna, Patty Thomas and Tony Romano, made a safe forced landing in a transport plane 225 miles North of Sydney, Australia according to press dispatches reaching here yesterday from Australia.



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 33 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE FROM FILE

Gov't Asks 10% Of British Film Workers

Needed to Help Rebuild Blitzed London Areas

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Aug. 16.—British film roducing organizations received a sconcerting surprise today when embers of the British Film Pro-ıcers Association were suddenly ımmoned to a private meeting at the abor Ministry and were informed ıat BFPA constituents must surren-er forthwith 10 per cent of their udio workers, including carpenters, ectricians and others for work in re-ɔnditioning London's robot-blitzed ɔuses, now approaching the million ark.

Civil Defense authorities have al-ady worked wonders in this regard ith help recruited from the Prov-ıces as well as Navy personnel but

(Continued on page 4)

Ohio Cooperative s Discontinued

CLEVELAND, Aug. 16.—Theatre Own-rs Cooperative Exchanges of Ohio, ıc., formed to distribute Goldwyn re-sues and other product to stockhold-ıg independent exhibitor members on cooperative basis, has died aborning. hecks totalling more than $30,000 ubscribed for stock have been return-d to exhibitors following meeting of irectors in Columbus.

Reasons for failure of the plan are ated in a letter to subscribers as: ıe expense of exchange operations uring present conditions, limited mount of available product and lack

(Continued on page 4)

Film Classics Near Set on Exchanges

Film Classics' national franchise-exhange system has been virtually completed, with additional franchise arangements set in New Haven, Memhis, Detroit and Seattle, and arrangeents about to be completed in Dallas nd Denver. The New Haven exhange, linked with the Boston office, vill be known as Film Classics of New ngland, and the Memphis office, link-d with the Atlanta branch, has been

(Continued on page 4)

'Outside' Lawyers Start Mapping Decree Strategy

The consent decree companies have already retained the services of the outside law firms which will represent them in their defense in the attempt of the Department of Justice to seek compulsory revisions of the consent decree in Federal Court. Several of the lawyers have already joined decree company lawyers in their mapping of strategy.

George Leisure and Ralston R. Irvine of the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lumbard have been attending meetings on behalf of RKO. Brigadier General William J. Donovan headed the RKO original defense but he is on active service now.

A. C. Bickford of the Simpson,

(Continued on page 4)

WB Determines Release Policy

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—In the concluding session of the first company meeting held here in nine years, it was revealed here that Warner Bros. intend maintaining a fluid releasing schedule next season, determining the number of releases based on market conditions, but is prepared to approximate 40 if this eventual total is deemed required to meet the situation. Thus the policy inaugurated several seasons back will continue without alteration.

Behind this are two important factors. One is the completed backlog;

(Continued on page 4)

House Votes Lifting Of Political Ban

Washington, Aug. 16.—Legislation relaxing the political ban provisions of the Soldiers Voting Law, passed yesterday by the Senate, was approved by the House today and immediately sent to the White House for Presidential signature.

Under the new provisions, no difficulty is expected to be encountered in passing on the propriety of films offered the Armed Forces for showing to soldiers and sailors and the way would be cleared for acceptance, if offered, of both "Wilson" and "Heavenly Days."

Villiers Here For Ealing

Sir Edward Villiers, emissary of Reginald Baker, managing director of Ealing Studios and president of the Kinematograph Renters Society, has arrived in this country from London to arrange a distribution deal with an American company for four Ealing films. Villiers, who is managing director of British and Overseas Films Sales, an Ealing subsidiary for foreign distribution, is here in place of Baker, who could not make a scheduled American visit.

While here, the Ealing representative plans to confer with Spyros Skouras, Stanton Griffis and other top

(Continued on page 10)

U.S. Releasing Freon for All Urgencies

WPB Is Reconsidering Exhibitor Petitions

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

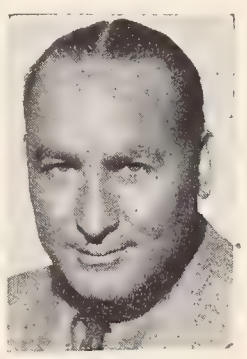
WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The War Production Board has unexpectedly started on a program of caring for exhibitors in distress because of lack of freon for cooling systems, a step made possible by the initiation of operations in the new 2,000,000-pound-plant at East Chicago.

Anticipating the increased supply from the new plant, Franklyn B. Millham, chief of the refrigeration section of the WPB equipment bureau, has written to all exhibitors whose appeals for freon had been turned down while the freon situation was critical, asking

(Continued on page 4)

One of Wallis' Five Is Set for England

One of the first five Hal Wallis productions for Paramount will be made in England, with shooting scheduled to start there next April or May if studio space is available, Wallis told trade press representatives at a luncheon at the 21 Club here yesterday.



Hal Wallis

The first production to be made in England will be "Whenever I Remember." Some talent and technical help probably will be sent to England from Hollywood for the production,

(Continued on page 4)

Grainger Sees 50% Republic Increase

Republic's playdates for a four-month advance period indicate that the company's gross will exceed the same period last year by over 50 per cent, according to James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager. He attributes the increase to the playdates

(Continued on page 4)

U. S. Does Not Ask for Single Films: Myers

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The Department of Justice proposal for a consent decree amendment to prohibit block booking would not make it mandatory for distributors to sell pictures singly, it is contended by Abram F. Myers, general counsel and board chairman of Allied States, in an analysis of the Department's proposals released here today.

Myers ascribed interpretations that the Department's block booking proposal would require single picture selling as "distributor propaganda."

A legal spokesman for distributors said yesterday in New York that any

(Continued on page 10)

Decorate Son of J. J. Fitzgibbons

Toronto, Aug. 16.—Lt. J. J. Fitzgibbons, son of the president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has been decorated with a bronze star for bravery in action in the South Pacific by the U. S. War Department. He is one of the four members of the Fitzgibbons family who are serving with the armed forces.

Stern 29 Years With Universal

Herman Stern, head of Universal's non-theatrical division, will observe his 29th anniversary with that company on Saturday. He joined Universal in 1915 in the sales department, and is credited with arranging for the first film showings aboard railroad trains, steamships and airplanes. He staged the first industry trade showing in Johnstown, Pa., in 1920.

Through Stern's efforts during the World War I, motion pictures were introduced in veterans' hospitals. Stern is now responsible for getting Universal product to troops overseas.

Gassner in Charge Of Plays for Col.

Columbia Pictures here yesterday announced the association with the company of John Gassner, former head of the play reading department of the Theater Guild, in a realignment and enlargement of the company's play and story department in New York.

Eve Ettinger, who has headed the department for several years, has also been placed in charge of the development of story material and story selection, in addition to having at her disposal writers to work on film stories under her supervision.

Gassner will devote his time to play development, represent the company in play productions in which the company is financially interested, and select plays to be produced under auspices of Columbia in New York theatres.

Del Guidice's Illness Halts 2 Cities Work

LONDON, Aug. 16.—Fillippo Del Guidice, Two Cities production head, is seriously ill with ailment diagnosed as blood pressure, and he has been ordered to remain in bed for at least three weeks and not to receive any callers.

Two Cities business is virtually at a standstill save for the production of Alan DeGrunwald's "This Side of the Ocean," but in the event of the emergency lasting, J. Arthur Rank is making arrangements for his own people to take charge.

Kovacs Sues Williams For Screen Credit

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—Edward Kovacs filed suit today in the Superior Court seeking to enjoin Sydney Williams from producing "Next Comes Love," unless the latter gives complainant screen credit as associate producer and 10 percent of the profits. The complaint says Williams paid $400 on a stipulated fee of $15,000, and offered to credit Kovacs as technical director instead of associate producer. Williams is producing pictures independently for Republic release.

Personal Mention

JAMES J. MURPHY, JR., assistant executive director of the motion picture arbitration system, is expected back at his desk today after a brief illness.

•

M/SGT. MORTON DECKER, son of HARRY DECKER, Warner salesman in the New York exchange, is home on his first furlough in four years. He has been with the Army in Caribbean area.

•

LEONARD BISHOP, manager of the Rivoli, in Toronto, has left for a vacation in Los Angeles where he will join his parents in their golden wedding anniversary celebration.

•

EDNA MAY MCDONALD, daughter of CHARLES MCDONALD, RKO Theatres here, has become engaged to Lt. Robert Hodgson, U. S. Army.

•

R. J. O'DONNELL, industry chairman of the Fifth War Loan Drive, has left New York for Dallas and is expected to return Aug. 28.

•

GRACE WALSH, secretary to HARRY GITTLESON, RKO assistant Western sales manager, will leave her post to marry GERALD FLYNNE.

•

FRANCIS HARMON, War Activities Committee coordinator, has returned from California after a brief stop in Washington.

•

B. S. OKUN of Toronto, president of Biltmore Theatres, is spending a three weeks' vacation in Timagami, North Ontario.

•

DAVE BADER, home office trade press contact for 20th Century-Fox, will leave tomorrow for a fortnight's vacation at Cape Cod and Cape Ann.

•

NORMAN CASTLE, publicity chief for Esseness Theatres, Chicago, will return to his desk Monday from a vacation.

• •

ED SCHRIEBER, WAC publicity head, was in Washington yesterday.

SAM E. MORRIS, vice president of Warners, is recovering at Le Roy Sanitarium here following an operation.

•

STANLEY HAND, Altec representative, has returned to New York from a visit to Altec's Electronic Division at Lexington, Mass., and the Boston office.

•

RICHARD MORGAN of the Paramount legal department left last night for a vacation at Thousand Islands. He will return Labor Day.

•

H. A. BISHOP, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Winnipeg, Canada, is visiting the Warner Hollywood studios this week.

•

DAVE WALLERSTEIN, district supervisor for Balaban and Katz in Chicago, has returned to his desk following a vacation.

•

NORMAN FERGUSON of the Walt Disney Studios, is in New York from Hollywood on a ten-day vacation.

•

H. M. BESSEY, vice president of Altec Service Corp., has returned to New York from Scranton.

•

SAUL GOLDMAN, president of Variety Pictures, Chicago, and MRS. GOLDMAN, are in New York for a few days.

•

ZELMA BROOKOV of Warners' Eastern talent department, left yesterday for a week's tour of New England.

•

JOHN A. CASSIDY, RKO Metropolitan theatres press representative, is vacationing.

•

FRANK GIASCHI, operating theatres in Bracebridge and Huntsville near Toronto, is recovering from illness.

•

JIMMY SAVAGE, head of publicity for Balaban & Katz' State Lake Theatre, Chicago, is vacationing.

•

L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, has left for Chicago exchange conferences.

G. O. Romney Seen In McMurphey Post

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The Office of Civilian Requirements was reported as turning to the American Red Cross to secure a successor to George W. N. McMurphey as head of the OCR's amusements and recreation section.

The new chief of the section, it is understood, will be G. Ott Romney, now Red Cross chief of recreation and club services to the Armed Forces, who has long been prominent in professional recreation activities.

Surveys USN Films

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—Capt. Gene Markey, author and motion picture producer, on temporary assignment to the office of Navy Secretary Forrestal, is making a survey of all Navy motion picture activities, it was learned here today.

Weisbord to Assist Seadler at M-G-M

Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of M-G-M advertising-publicity, announced yesterday the addition to his staff of Abbott Weisbord.

Weisbord has resigned from the post of associate art director of the Peck Advertising Agency to become assistant to M-G-M advertising manager Silas F. Seadler.

Ginsberg to Host Press

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount vice-president and general manager in charge of production, now in New York to confer with home office executives and set up a closer liaison between East and West Coast story and talent departments, will be host to the trade press at luncheon at the 21 Club here tomorrow.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 16

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO Radio advertising-publicity director, having delayed his departure for the East, is now enroute with a stopover in Denver.

•

Abby Berlin, assistant director and unit manager on a number of Columbia productions, has been made a full director for that company, his first assignment to be the next "Blondie" feature in that soon-to-be-resumed series.

•

Producer Mike Todd has appealed to the Hollywood Victory Committee for players to head overseas USO companies in a number of plays, including "Over 21," "Male Animal," and "Junior Miss."

•

Following his recovery from a minor operation, Jesse L. Lasky, reported back on the Warner lot yesterday and started work on "The Two Mrs. Carrolls."

•

Warner signed Alfred DeLiagre, Jr., to produce the film version of his stage production, "Voice of the Turtle."

•

Albert S. Rogell, director, has left Republic Pictures on the expiration of his contract.

•

"None So Blind," forthcoming serial to be published in *Collier's,* has been purchased by RKO .

•

20th-Fox extended Laird Cregar's contract one year.

Unger Discussing UA Deal with Fox-WC

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—Joseph Unger, UA western sales manager, is discussing new product deal with Fox-West Coast Theatres after holding a regional sales meeting in San Francisco. He will return East in one week.

Luncheon for O'Connell

Eileen O'Connell, assistant to Ted Lloyd, head of the 20th Century-Fox home office radio department, was given a farewell luncheon by her colleagues yesterday at the Buckingham Cafe here. She expects to leave for the Coast next week.

'Skeffington' Tops

Having received 247 holdovers out of its first 250 engagements, "Mr. Skeffington" looms as the top grosser of the 1943-44 season on the Warner Bros. schedule, the home office reported here yesterday.

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WEATHER FLASH!

It's hotter than on Christmas!



Bette Davis' RECEIPTS ARE HOTTER THAN EVER IN HISTORY. **MR. SKEFFINGTON'S** 2ND-WEEK IN DAYTON OUT-GROSSED BETTE'S XMAS-NEW YEARS "OLD ACQUAINTANCE" RUN. SAME EVERYWHERE. **WARNER SHOW!**

with CLAUDE RAINS and WALTER ABEL • RICHARD WARING • GEORGE COULOURIS • MARJORIE RIORDAN • Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN

Screen Play by Julius J. & Philip G. Epstein • From a Story by "Elizabeth" • Music by Franz Waxman • Produced by JULIUS J. & PHILIP G. EPSTEIN • JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

Gov't Asks 10% Of British Film Workers

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Labor Ministry now ordains that all nonessential industries must bear a hand in the emergency. The BFPA claims that that film production is currently working at its lowest ebb as a result of the studio shortage and urged that film production is vital to national morale and the country's prestige abroad. Already operating "on the starvation line" it might collapse if the suggested labor drain is imposed, it was said.

The Ministry, pointing out that it has statutory powers "to direct" labor from unessential to war-essential work, said it is unwilling to exercise these powers but stated that the film industry must bear the burden similar to other "unessenital" industries. It conceded adjournment until Friday, after suggesting that the BFPA call volunteers for this urgent wartime job.

Studio Workers' Attitude

In view of the current mood of the studio workers who are reported to regard themselves as a highly privileged class, response to the volunteer call is regarded as highly unlikely because, firstly, volunteers might not get their studio jobs back when the war ends and secondly, the studio carpenters receive an average of two pounds weekly more than carpenters elsewhere.

The BFPA is privately seeking the aid of the Board of Trade to ameliorate the position with the Labor Ministry which would undoubtedly gravely affect large scale film productions at Denham. For instance, Gabriel Pascal and Sir Alexander Korda are already sorely troubled and delayed by the labor shortage. It is understood that Rank's "inner circle" is not displeased by these developments, pointing out that this is a test case of labor's sense of responsibility and adding that after the war when carpenters are easily obtainable, "we'll see what happens then."

Film Classics Near Set on Exchanges

(*Continued from page* 1)

established as Film Classics of the Southeast. Albert Dezel has the Detroit franchise, operating in conjunction with his Albert Dezel Roadshows of Detroit and Cleveland.

Harry Mandel, former Warner Chicago exchange salesman, has arrived in New York to take over the management of the local branch of Film Classics.

Ohio Cooperative Is Discontinued

(*Continued from page* 1)

of exhibitor enthusiasm. Directors who voted to abandon the cooperative were: Milton Mooney, Cleveland; Morris White, Cincinnati and Leo Yassenoff, Columbus. The letter announcing failure of the plan and enclosing the refunds was signed by Troy H. Feiber, secretary, a Columbus attorney.

Lawyers Start on Decree Strategy

(*Continued from page* 1)

Thacher and Bartlett law firm has also been attending the meetings for Paramount. Judge Thacher represented Paramount when the original decree was being written but he is now a member of the Court of Appeals in Albany and thus will be unable to participate.

Twentieth Century-Fox has been represented by John Caskey of the firm of Dwight, Harris, Koegle and Caskey at the recent decree meetings and it appears that the firm will again represent the company.

Judge Joseph M. Proskauer of the firm of Proskauer, Rose and Paskus is described as already working on the Warner defense. He represented the company in the original decree negotiations.

Only Loew's, Inc. seems to be undecided upon counsel at this time. The company was represented by John W. Davis of the firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and Kiendl during the original consent decree sessions and the company will probably retain him again. J. Robert Rubin, vice-president and general counsel said here this week that no decision has been made yet on outside counsel.

One of Wallis' Five Is Set for England

(*Continued from page* 1)

Wallis said. David Rose, Paramount managing director for Britain, is endeavoring to schedule studio space for the picture and expects to be able to conclude the arrangements shortly after his return to London from here in the near future.

Wallis said his aim is to make one or two pictures of top calibre in England annually. He discussed plans for his production activities in Britain with Barney Balaban, Rose and other Paramount home office executives this week. Joseph Hazen, head of Wallis Productions, is expected to accompany the producer to England to make preparations for the project next Spring.

Prior to the start of production abroad, Wallis expects to complete three or four pictures at the Paramount studio in Hollywood. They are: "Affairs of Susan," "Don't Ever Grieve Me," "The Searching Wind" and "Love Letters." Production on the first is scheduled to start next month.

$5,542,500 Paramount B'way Redemption

Paramount Broadway Corp. has called for redemption on Sept. 19, 1944, at par and accrued interest, $5,542,500 of its first mortgage sinking fund loan certificates. Determination of the certificates to be redeemed will be made by lot.

It is contemplated that the balance of the certificates will be called for redemption on Feb. 15, 1945.

Dunlap to Host Press

Scott Dunlap, Monogram producer, here from Hollywood on a visit, will be host to the trade press at luncheon today in the Warwick Hotel.

SMPE Fall Meeting Here Oct. 16-18

The Society of Motion Picture Engineers will present its "Progress Medal Award" and "Journal Certificate" for 1944 during the Society's 56th semi-annual conference, to be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York, Oct. 16-18.

The presentations will be made at a dinner-dance to be held Tuesday night, Oct. 17, as part of the social activities restored to the convention program by the SMPE board of governors. No social functions were held during the Spring meeting.

The tentative convention program announced by W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president, includes business sessions on each of the three days. Evening programs are also being arranged. Committee chairmen include: Barton Kreuzer, papers; C. R. Keith, Atlantic Coast section; Kunzmann, registration and information; E. I. Sponable, reception and local arrangements; D. E. Hyndman, dinner-dance; James Frank, Jr., membership and subscription; O. F. Neu, hotel and transportation; Mrs. E. I. Sponable, ladies reception; H. F. Heidegger, 35-mm projection; M. W. Palmer, 16-mm projection; Julius Haber, publicity.

WB Determines Release Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

two is the intention of sustaining production level so that the vaults at all times will be sufficiently fortified to make inroads not predictable now possible as circumstance may dictate. The completed backlog now stands at 18.

Because of the transportation stringencies, Warner Bros. this year is holding the sales meetings to attendance minimum and as quietly as possible. Harry Warner delivered an address Monday stressing the underlying company policy which continues geared to national interests. Today Jack Warner analyzed production at the combined distribution and theatre session. Virtually all conventioneers depart Friday for their respective cities.

Grainger Sees 50% Republic Increase

(*Continued from page* 1)

secured on "Atlantic City," "Storm Over Lisbon," "Man From Frisco" and "San Fernando Valley," all currently in release, and "Flame of the Barbary Coast," set for early release.

At the same time, Grainger revealed that "Lake Placid Serenade" has been dated in 40 key cities between next Dec. 15 and and Jan. 15, with over 75 key theatre openings during the holiday season. Herbert J. Yates has appropriated $300,000 for national newspaper advertising, radio and billboard campaigns with Donahue and Coe set to supervise the key city openings. National exploitation will be handled by Lester Kaufman, head of studio publicity; Steve Edwards, head of New York publicity, and Charles Reed Jones, head of New York advertising.

U.S. Releasing Freon for All Urgencies

(*Continued from page* 1)

them whether their cooling systems had been shut down, what their weekly attendance is and how badly business has dropped off, and other information, and as rapidly as possible will take care of the acute hardship cases.

So far, it was said, only two instances have been reported where theatres actually closed because of the lack of freon and in both those cases supplies were immediately made available. It is the purpose of the WPB to permit no theatres or stores which play an important part in the community to close because of lack of the refrigerant, although a number of small shops have been refused supplies, it was said here.

The new East Chicago plant is starting operations on a very low scale, but will increase its output rapidly and is expected to reach capacity production around Nov. 1, at which time new supplies of freon gas will be available in the neighborhood of 5,500,000 pounds a month.

Freon in 3 Months

Within three months, it is anticipated that the needs of theatres now suffering from a deficiency of the refrigerant can begin to be met, and by next Spring it is hoped the supply of freon will be adequate to meet all needs of exhibitors.

The end of the European war will have little or no effect on the freon situation, Millham said, since only a relatively small proportion of the production is needed for that area, but with the East Chicago plant in full production it is estimated that all military needs can be met with sufficient gas left over to fill essential civilian requirements rapidly. Supplies for new equipment probably will be available whenever the restrictions on its production are lifted.

All told, Millham said, the freon situation today looks better than at any time since our entry into the war. After the war, the expanded production developed during the past two years will permit a rapid expansion of the refrigeration industry.

SDG Takes Up Raise For Its Assistants

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 16.—The Screen Directors' Guild council met here last night to consider counter-proposals offered by producers in response to the guild's demand for an increased scale for assistant directors. It is believed the council will refer the matter to the board for consideration of further procedure.

The Screen Actors Guild this week voted to join in the State Federation of Labor's fight against proposition No. 12, described as the "right of employment law," which comes up for a vote in the November elections. The SFL interprets the proposed law as outlawing contracts calling for a closed shop. The SAG has donated $4,500 to the SFL's campaign against the measure.

'Going My Way' and 'Skeffington' Big

CINCINNATI, Aug. 16.—"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" will give the RKO Albee an average gross of $13,500, while "Mr. Skeffington" is heading for an estimated $9,000, $4,000 over par, at the RKO Shubert, playing a moveover week as the preopening bill at this house. "Going My Way" will do around $11,500 on a third downtown week at the RKO Grand, against an average $6,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 16-19:

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,500 (Average: $13,500).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Seven Doors to Death" (PRC)
"Silver City Raiders" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).

"Valley of Vengeance" (PRC)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $700).

"Going My Way (Para.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week, following two weeks at the Palace. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $6,500).

"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB reissue)
"Manpower" (WB reissue)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,500).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Dragon Seed' Takes $5,000 Over Par

BALTIMORE, Aug. 16.—Business here shows an increase where major attractions are concerned. Average pictures, however, continue to attract only average attention. Topping the week's list is "Dragon Seed" which will collect $22,000 at the Century. "A Wave, Wac and a Marine," bolstered by "Tars and Spars," featuring Victor Mature in person on the stage, is scoring $20,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,000).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).

"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
HIPODROME—(2,205) (33c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: the Coast Guard's "Tars and Spars" with Victor Mature. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,500).

"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

Fairs Promote Films

BOSTON, Aug. 16. — Local theatres are taking advantage of the annual fair season in this area, using the fair grounds to string banners promoting films now showing in Boston.

Reviews

"Marriage Is a Private Affair"

(M-G-M) *Hollywood, Aug. 16*

IN the final stretches, Keenan Wynn relays sweet nothings from Lana Turner in San Francisco to John Hodiak, her husband, somewhere in the South Pacific, and through these middleman tactics blows their estrangement away for the happy ending. Coming as a complete surprise, it is an extremely funny piece of business which gives "Marriage Is a Private Affair" a lift out of the deep morasses into which over 100 minutes of excessive footage have bogged it.

Prior to that is a strange assortment of people and situations. Natalie Schafer, playing Miss Turner's mother, has been married three times, but before all this is ended is minus her third husband. Frances Gifford is married to Herbert Rudley and playing in the side pocket with Hugh Marlowe who, in turn, weds Shirley Patterson. This wrecks Miss Gifford, not to overlook her husband, turns her half crazy while Marlowe finally resumes his drinking and drives off the bridge one day to his death, whether suicide or accidental is up to the audience to determine.

Miss Turner has married Hodiak, her off-screen voice casting doubts on her own wisdom born of her mother's checkered marital career. This presumably sets up uncertainties and inhibitions in the daughter's mind. She can't make decisions about anything and says so in dialogue. The uncertainties and meanderings create differences with her husband and, despite the child which binds them, results in a rift. Miss Gifford's duplicity doesn't help in the cause of perfect marriages, either.

Thus, the two principals break up. Hodiak forces his way from range-finder production back into the air corps and active duty. Miss Turner starts hitting the high spots, never quite knowing what she's up to and whether she wants to. This is not a reviewer's appraisal of her motivations and actions; Miss T. tells about them as she wanders along the edges of her self-made precipice.

At any rate, she bumbles into what is presented as a great truth which is that marriage is a private affair and solves her own irresolutions by finally deciding Hodiak, the man she has, is the man she wants. Reconciliation, via the trans-Pacific airwaves with Wynn serving as the 'phone exchange brings it about.

Virtually all of the characters are just that: characters. There is practically no believability in them or in what they do. Story brambles and thorns cut up the narrative pattern and confuse rather than clarify what this is all about. Under such unfortunate handicaps, the cast does what it can with a tough assignment.

Miss Turner, of course, is most attractive, displays a wide wardrobe and an eye-raising array of hair dress. The fact that this is her first release since maternity ought to count for box-office weight and the title smacks of pronounced commercial possibilities. Production trappings are smart in the best Metro manner. Hodiak and James Craig, faithful friend and disappointed lover, are additional names for marquee purposes. Pandro S. Berman produced and Robert Z. Leonard directed.

Running time, 118 mins. "A." * Release date, not set.

RED KANN

*"A" denotes adult classification.

"Two Soldiers"

(Artkino)

ALTHOUGH this Soviet film has its share of impressive battle sequences, it is in the main a glorification of the Russian doughboy and the bond that exists between two buddies on the Leningrad front. Mark Bernes, an incorrigible jokester, and Boris Andreyev, a serious stalwart, whose fast friendship has been solidified by the common perils of the front, have fallen out over a girl, Vera Shershneva. Bernes kids his pal unmercifully before the entire company, not out of malice, but to bolster spirits fallen low after many casualties. Eventually the two friends are reunited when Andreyev goes to the rescue of Bernes who is caught in an exposed position by German fire.

The film has a warm quality that helps to overcome the barrier of its foreign dialogue. Colloquial subtitles by Charles Clement serve their purpose. Bernes sings several songs which are not martial but typify the yearning of the soldier for his native city. L. Lukov directed from a scenario by Eugene Gabrilovich. N. Bogoslavsky composed incidental music.

Running time, 75 mins. "G"*. Release date, July 26.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Short Subject Reviews

"Eyes for Tomorrow"

(Emerson Yorke)

Originally produced as a two-reel film for exhibition in educational institution, "Eyes for Tomorrow" has been cut in half for theatrical distribution and as such is an interesting treatise on eye health. With Alois Havrilla as commentator, the picture sets forth reasons for and methods of retaining good eye-sight. The subject is one which is timely any time and deserves much attention. "Eyes for Tomorrow" could be the beginning of a series of enlightening shorts designed to educate the public to ways of keeping well. Running time 11 mins.

"Springtime for Pluto"

(RKO)

Pluto gets his fill of beautiful Spring. Peter Pan pipes him away to the woods where the light-hearted dog is attacked by a squadron of bee-bombers, sprawls into a bunch of poison-ivyand is finally deluged by a 'lovely' April shower. Pluto returns to his doghouse to await the coming of a good hard winter. Music is delightful and color excellent to make an entertaining and cleverly handled subject. Running time, 7 mins.

"Pagliacci Swings It"

(Universal)

"Pagliacci," in the person of Joe Reichman, swings out in this musical short which should go over big with jive-fans especially and provide a few minutes of good entertainment for everyone. With Reichman's orchestra, Gene Austin, modern ballad singer, is spotlighted with his almost-whispered version of "My Blue Heaven." The well-rounded program includes "I'll Remember April" and some jazz numbers featuring Reichman at the piano. Running time, 15 mins.

"Ski Chase"

(RKO-Pathe)

Latest in the Sportscope series presents a group of skiers, led by Gretchen Fraser, ski champion, at play in Wasatch National Forest. William Deeke has caught all the scenic splendor of Utah's highest mountains with his camera. Ski fans will appreciate this subject especially, but for all film goers it affords a thrill and plenty of entertainment. Running time, 8 mins.

"Sadie Hawkins Day"

(Columbia)

The second in Columbia's new "Little Abner" series is a colorful and humorous treatise on the traditional "Sadie Hawkins Day" observance as it touches Abner Hokum and his nemesis, Daisy-Mae, who is still determined to "rope" him. This cartoon fully catches the hill-billy humor of the comic strip, upon which the series is based. Running time 7 mins.

Mavor to Vanguard

Geraldine Mavor, former publicity director for Arnold Pressburger Productions, has joined the publicity staff of Vanguard Films, Inc., and of David O. Selznick Enterprises. She succeeds Ann Daggett as magazine editor.



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—Walter Winchell

"ENTERTAINMENT IN EVERY FOOT AND FRAME!" *—Film Daily*

"ZANUCK CRAMS ENTERTAINMENT INTO THE PICTURE!"
—World-Telegram

"CLOSE ATTENTION TO ENTERTAINMENT VALUES!" *—Mirror*

"SUPERB ENTERTAINMENT!" *—New York Sun*

"EPIC, MINGLING ENTERTAINMENT, INTEREST AND SIGNIFICANCE!" *—Motion Picture Herald*

"MONUMENTAL—AS ENTERTAINMENT!"
—N. Y. Evening Post

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WILSON

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WRITTEN BY LAMAR TROTTI •

the Century from 20 *th Century-Fox*

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
July 22	U BOAT PRISONER Bruce Bennett D-65 mins.	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)	THREE OF A KIND Billy Gilbert Maxie Rosenbloom Helen Gilbert C—67 mins. (323)	(Fifth Block) AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)	FUZZY SETTLES DOWN Buster Crabbe Al 'Fuzzy' St. John O—60 mins. (465)	SECRETS OF SCOTLAND YARD D—68 mins. (321)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.	(July Releases—no definite date set)		TWILIGHT ON THE PRAIRIE Eddie Quillan Vivian Austin M—62 mins. (8045)	(Regular Release) ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN Fredric March Alexis Smith D—130 mins. (315)
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5007)	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425)	WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)	DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325)	BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Dave O'Brien O—61 mins. (458)	3 LITTLE SISTERS Ruth Terry Mary Lee Cheryl Walker D—69 mins. (325)	(Sixth Block) GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426)	ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe C—80 mins.	ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 5	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. (5027)	THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322)	MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George D—69 mins. (404)	SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (344)	MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427)	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)			
Aug. 12	SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D—(5026)	TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)		GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH Chick Chandler June Clyde D—60 mins. (417)	BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45)	A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)	(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	
Aug. 19	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C—(5012)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)			DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322)	STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429)			IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Aug. 26	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)	MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida El Brendel C—(421) DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford M—72 mins. (505) (1944-45)	PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324)	YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases) TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)			JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—(5002)	CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M—(509) (1944-45)		(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)		GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins.	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases)		MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D	(Ninth Block) (incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins.	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357)	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(551) (1944-'45)	STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434)	SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503)		THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins.	BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)		SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505)		PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—(1944-'45)	
Sept. 30	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)			MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433)	DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—(1944-'45)	
	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins.	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45)				HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)				

Coast Tribute To 'Wilson': $20,000 Boost

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—Opening in the wake of a gala premiere and sailing into the teeth of a news gale blown up by the War Department's first and second Army-banning statements, "Wilson" grossed $47,000 at the Carthay Circle and the United Artists, which average $27,800. "Double Indemnity" was prospering concurrently to the tune of $84,000 in the Fox West Coast Chinese-Loew's State-Fox Wilshire-Uptown foursome, where $61,850 is par. Business was good all over, despite the first hot weather of the summer.

Estimated takings for the week ending August 16:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE — (1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $17,600. (Average: $11,200).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $15,500).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,500).
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,750. (Average: $6,200).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,900).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $16,700).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $16,600).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,500).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD — (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,788. (Average: $17,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $19,395. (Average: $18,700).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,828. (Average: $15,200).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
FOX-WILSHIRE—(2,300) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,750).

K-B to Build Theatre

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16.—The K-B circuit will begin construction of a new theatre, the Avon, this month, it was reported yesterday by Frank Boucher, general manager. Boucher also announced that James Sandford, formerly with Schine Theatres, has been appointed accountant for K-B Theatres.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



BOB HOPE CHANGES COLOR!..."MY FAVORITE BRUNETTE" IS ANNOUNCED BY PARAMOUNT AS COMING VEHICLE FOR STAR WHO SET LAUGH RECORDS WITH "MY FAVORITE BLONDE" IN 1942. NEW "FAVORITE" WILL BE PAULETTE GODDARD, CURRENTLY PREMIERING WITH SONNY TUFTS IN MARK SANDRICH'S "I LOVE A SOLDIER".

Heat Boosts Chi. Grosses; 'Lively' High

CHICAGO, Aug. 16.—Despite a soaring heat wave, or because of it, Loop houses continue to roll up heavy grosses. The Palace had one of its biggest weeks this Summer with "Step Lively," Frank Sinatra, responsible for a fine $29,000. The Chicago Theatre did a big $57,000 with "Uncertain Glory" and the second week of the "Diamond Horseshoe Revue" on the stage.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO — (1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 6 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average for 7 days: $11,400).
"Uncertain Glory" (WB)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-90c). Stage: Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe Revue." Gross: $57,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Meet the People" (M-G-M)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 5 days. 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average for 7 days: $9,100).
"This Is The Life" (Univ.)
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 3rd Loop week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-80c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Stan Kenton and his orchestra. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Coing My Way" (Para.)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 10th Loop week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $29,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up In Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 16th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Step Lively' Gets Lively $36,000

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 16.—The majority of houses here report better than average business. "Step Lively" at the Golden Gate hit this week's top with a smashing $36,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $27,000).
"Take It Big" (Para.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $27,000).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,000).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20,000).
"The Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
STATE—(2,308) (74c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS — (1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, move over from the Fox. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS — (1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $11,000).

U.S. Does Not Ask Single Sales: Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

distributor that wanted to avoid complications would be obliged to sell pictures one at a time if the Department's block booking proposal were adopted in its present terminology.

"The Department said that recent Supreme Court decisions have made it clear that the forcing of feature licenses by the tying of one copyright to another is unlawful, even in the case of the present decree procedure of selling in blocks of five," the company spokesman pointed out. "If we are to take that at face value," he observed, "we would have no alternative but to sell each picture separately."

Allied Analysis

The Allied analysis of the Department's proposals is favorable to the entire program. None of the proposals is subjected to criticism and, only occasionally, is note made that here and there the Department's proposals do not follow in some details the lines laid down for amendment of the decree at the Conference of Independent Exhibitors in Chicago last February. This is true of the Department's request that trade showings be continued; of the proposal for prohibiting the forcing of short subjects and on the failure of the Department to include in its proposals a provision for cancellation. Of the latter, the Allied analysis says:

Failure of Recommendations

"The failure of the Government to adopt the recommendation of the Conference of Independent Exhibitors in reference to cancellations undoubtedly was due to the fact that the proposals contemplate a free right of selection without forcing, making a cancellation privilege unnecessary."

"It is not apparent on the face of the application why certain subsidiary recommendations relating to the trade showing and the announcement and licensing of films were passed over. It is possible that the recommendations in reference to blind pricing and quarterly group selling were deemed to be outside the purview of the decree."

"The principal recommendations passed over had to do with forced percentage selling and distributor control of admission prices and other competitive practices," the Allied analysis states.

It concludes: "It is important that the opinions to be formed should be based on the merits of the proposals and not on some propagandist's false and misleading statements concerning

Buffalo Variety Party

BUFFALO, Aug. 16.—Local Variety, tent No. 7, will hold its annual golf tournament and dinner-dance Aug. 22 at the Brookfield Country Club in suburban Williamsville.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE WANTED
Experienced, State Rights, all Territories, handling outstanding exploitation picture. Commission. Write qualifications and experience.
BOX NO. 231
MOTION PICTURE DAILY

McHutchion Missing, Langyher Killed

Washington, Aug. 16.—William Langyher, former manager of the Princess Theatre, is an Army casualty in France, the first Washington theatre man killed in action.

Toronto, Aug. 16.—Flying Officer Jack McHutchion, formerly of Famous Players' Capitol at Brantford, Ont., has been reported missing after operations with the RCAF somewhere in Europe.

Kohn to Arbitrate St. Louis Dispute

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 16.—Carrying out a recommendation of the labor panel which took testimony in the labor dispute between St. Louis theaters and the Local 6, AFL stage employes and operators union, the Regional Labor Board at Kansas City has appointed Jules E. Kohn a board member to arbitrate the number of stage hands to be employed at local theatres.

The controversy involves 66 stage hands in first-run and neighborhood houses, for whom the union demanded a 15 per cent wage increase over the present scale of $75 per week. Exhibitors are said to have expressed willingness to meet the increase, provided the union agrees to reduce the minimum number of men to be employed.

B'klyn Theatres Get 2,217 Blood Donors

Brooklyn film theatres were responsible for 2,217 blood donation appointments in July the local Red Cross chapter has reported.

Michael Nicholas, manager of the Century Kingsway Theatre, was among those cited by the organization for special commendation. His house staff turned in a list of 663 prospective donors following regular personal appeals by Nicholas. Other Brooklyn theatres reported the following appointment figures for the month of July: RKO Kenmore, 630; Brooklyn Paramount, 688, and the RKO Albee, 495. During the month of June, Loew's Pitkin led the list with 785 appointments.

Villiers Here to Set Ealing Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

executives. Another purpose of his visit, Villiers said, is to make a survey of American distribution requirements for British films.

Villiers said that he might acquire some American product for British distribution and will also visit Mexico with a similar object in mind. He also plans to confer with Paul Nathanson, Empire-Universal president, and Oscar Hanson, in Canada.

The British film representative declared that it might prove advantageous to the British industry if the various British producers would pool their production resources with a view to making films that could easily be marketable in this country

The four films which Villiers has brought to this country, all Michael Balcon productions, are: "Champagne Charley" "They Came to a City," "Fiddlers Three" and "The Return of the Vikings."

Heat Dulls Grosses In Philadelphia; 'Wing' Gets $25,000

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 16.—The heat wave opened the week sluggishly with the temporary closing of the Mastbaum for repairs pointing up business at other first-runs. Leading is "Wing and a Prayer," for a $25,000 take at the Fox, plus $2,200 for a dual Sunday showing at the Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 18:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $14,600).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,800. (Average: $18,000).

"Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox) (6 days)
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Clyde Lucas' orchestra, Mills Brothers, Folie Miller, Lionel Kaye, Jean LaSalle and Paul Steele. Gross: $20,400. (Average: $27,600).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,500).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $6,600).

"Dead End" (Film Classics)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,800).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $20,000).

"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,400).

Para. Changes Block No. 1 Showing Dates

Dates of the trade-showings of Paramount's first block of five for 1944-45 have been changed from Aug. 24-25 to Aug. 31-Sept. 1. "Rainbow Island," and "Till We Meet Again" will be shown Aug. 31 and "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," "National Barn Dance" and "Dark Mountain," on Sept. 1.

Showings will be at Paramount exchanges except in New York, Albany and Atlanta where the pictures will be shown at 20th Century-Fox exchanges and Los Angeles where the Ambassador Theatre will be used.

Big 'Cross' Promotion

M-G-M's "The Seventh Cross" will have "one of the most extensive advertising campaigns in transportation media ever given an M-G-M film," the home office here reported yesterday. Beginning Aug. 22, car cards and two and four-sheet posters will appear on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, the Long Island Railroad and the New York Central, as well as major bus and subway lines in the Metropolitan area.

Murphy to PCA Publicity

Eugene K. Murphy has been named publicity director of Producers Corporation of America, it was reported yesterday by Ben Englander, vice president. Murphy's first asignment will be "The Old West," to be released by United Artists.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 16

M-G-M, in what is declared to be the largest deal of its kind in the studio's history, has handed out 26 seven-year contracts at one fell swoop to as many specialty dancers. All but eight of the dancers were originally signed for "Du Barry Was a Lady," and have retained their connection with M-G-M ever since. All of them will be seen in the forthcoming filmusical, "Ziegfeld Follies."

•

The role of "Nora" in "Of Human Bondage" has been assigned to Alexis Smith by Warners. . . . Ralph Belamy, recently signed to a new long-term contract by Hunt Stromberg, will have the lead in Charles R. Rogers' coming production, "High Among the Stars." Connie Moore will have the lead opposite Bellamy. Arthur Lubin will direct. . . . Daniele Amphitheatrof will do the musical score for "I'll Be Seeing You" at Vanguard. . . . Roger Pryor is set for the lead in Republic's "Thoroughbreds." . . . Otto Preminger will have an important role in "Where Do We Go From Here?" at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Sunset Carson will be starred in a new series of Westerns at Republic. . . . Walter Brennan has been signed for a featured role in "Nobody Lives Forever," which Jean Negulesco will direct for producer Robert Buckner on the Warner lot.

•

Jinx Falkenburg will be starred in Columbia's forthcoming "Song of Tahiti." . . . Joseph H. Lewis has been signed by PRC to direct "First Illusion." . . . Pedro Armendariz, Mexican star, has arrived in Hollywood from Mexico City to confer with Producer Hunt Stromberg regarding his role as Moreno in "Dishonored Lady," which Andre de Toth will direct. The picture is scheduled to get under way in October. . . . Universal has signed Leon Errol for a comedy role in "Musical Roundup." . . . Andrea King, who made her debut in "The Very Thought of You," has had her Warner contract extended.

•

William Castle, currently directing "Dormant Account," Columbia's new "Whistler" picture, will go to New York upon completion of this assignment to direct a stage play. "If a Body," for the Shuberts. . . . Another famous Latin-American star, Cantinflas, will arrive in Hollywood soon to confer with John H. Auer on a picture to be made for RKO Radio in English and Spanish versions. Cantinflas will star in both. . . . Bill Goodwin, radio announcer and featured player on the Burns and Allen program, has been signed for a role in David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . Joel McCrea, Brian Donlevy and Sonny Tufts will play the three masculine stellar roles in the Technicolor picturization of "The Virginian" at Paramount. . . . Paul Cavanagh has been signed by M-G-M to portray a British war official in "Airship Squadron 4." . . . Columbia has purchased "Threesome," an original by Laura Hobson, and it will be adapted as a screen vehicle for three top-ranking stars. . . . Jack Schwarz has signed Albert Hay Malotte to do the musical score for "The Enchanted Forest."

Award Eliminates Mass. Clearance

The clearance complaint filed by Richard B. Rubin, operator of the State Theatre, Saugus, Mass., against the five consenting companies, and requesting that the 21-days clearance of the first-run Granada, Strand and Mystic Theatres in Malden, Mass., over the Saugus State be eliminated, has been granted by John A. Daly, arbitrator in the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The arbitrator also ruled that the nominal 21-day clearance existing over the State on the part of first-run Lynn, Mass., theatres, including the Warner, Paramount and the Olympia, be reduced to 14 days. The arbitrator dismissed the complaint insofar as it pertained to the supply of pictures by Warners to the Warner, Lynn, and by Paramount to the Paramount and Olympia, Lynn.

At the same time the AAA reported that three clearance cases had been filed in St. Louis by Adolph Rosecan on behalf of the Princess, St. Louis, operated by himself; the Ritz, East Alton, Ill., operated by Sol and Irving Goldfarb, and the Gaty, East St. Louis, Ill., operated by A. D. Maragian.

The Princess complaint alleges that it must wait too long after first-run St. Louis houses and the territorial release dates for product and asks for a reasonable clearance for all prior runs below those they now possess over the Princess and also for a maximum clearance time after first-runs.

The Ritz complaint charges that clearance between that house and prior runs in East Alton and Alton, Ill., are unreasonable and that it must wait too long after territorial release dates before product is made available. The Ritz seeks clearance on an equitable basis, as does the Gaty which voices a similar complaint and request for relief.

Meiselman Files Clearance In New Haven Tribunal

Herman B. Meiselman, operator of the Strand Theatre, Wallingford, Conn., has filed a clearance complaint in the New Haven tribunal against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association also reported.

Complainant asks that the 90-day clearance, which the second-run Strand is subject to after the Wilkinson, also Wallingford, be reduced to one day or else be given such clearance as is deemed reasonable.

'Choice', Show, Lead In Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 16.—"Gambler's Choice," with "George White's Scandals," at the Circle, is taking first place here this week, doing $16,000. A revival of "Waterloo Bridge" at Loew's will gross $12,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 17:

"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-72c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,800).
"The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
"Falcon Out West" (RKO)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
"Jam Session" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, move-over from 3 weeks showing at Indiana. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,900).

Record $28,000 for 'Way' in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 16.—The Newman is tops here this week with "Going My Way" doing $28,000, which breaks all previous records for that theatre at regular prices. "Dragon Seed" at the Midland did $20,000 in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 18:

"A Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,600).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600).

Para.'s 'Soldier' Has World Premiere

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 16.—Backed by an extensive campaign, Paramount's "I Love a Soldier" was given its world premiere at the Fox Theate here last night. A special stage presentation dedicated to the Red Cross Blood Donor Service preceded the showing, with Sonny Tufts and Marjorie Reynolds making personal appearances. Fifty Red Cross workers in uniform were on the stage.

Tufts and Miss Reynolds appeared before 120,000 workers at the Kaiser Shipyards and also appeared at the U. S. Navy Receiving Barracks at Shoemaker, Cal. The program included a number of other personal appearances and radio broadcasts by the stars.

Services Today for John Stahr of WE

Funeral services will be held this evening at Methodist Episcopal Church Parish House, Summit, N. J. for John M. Stahr, comptroller of manufacture of Western Electric. Interment will be at Forest Home Cemetery, Chicago, on Saturday.

Stahr died suddenly on Tuesday at the age of 60 while on his vacation at Lake Minnewaska, N. Y. He had been associated with Western Electric since 1906. He is survived by his wife, the former Aagot Amundsen and three children, James, Robert and Audrey.

Joseph Marks Dies

PERTH, Ont., Aug. 16.—Joseph E. C. Marks, 82, of Christie Lake, one of the last two surviving brothers of the well known Marks family, died here recently. Marks Bros. shows toured for many years in the early days of films. Surviving are his widow and his brother, Ernie, former Mayor of Oshawa and owner of the Marks Theatre, now operated by 20th Century Theatres, Oshawa.

SITUATION WANTED

Single woman desires position with film exchange or, home office of theatre circuit. Experienced booker, bookkeeper, cashier, typist and publicity. A1 references. Box 230 Motion Picture Daily.

Owners' Aid Sought To Prevent Fires

Again this year, within the next few days, theatres will be visited by 'Fire Prevention Week' committee members who will ask theatre owners to cooperate in the annual Fire Prevention Week campaign by running a special fire prevention trailer which the committee will supply for this year's national observance Oct. 8-14.

"With theatre fires on the increase, managers will be taking an effective step in preventing disaster in their own houses for the trailer will call attention to the danger of smoking carelessly and will caution against other common fire causes," said a committee statement.

Legion Classifies Nine New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following films: Class A-1, "Dangerous Journey," 20th Century-Fox; "One Mysterious Night," Columbia, and "Heavenly Days," RKO; Class A-2, "Abroad with Two Yanks," United Artists; "Atlantic City," Republic; "Maisie Goes to Reno," M-G-M, and "Moonlight and Cactus," Universal.

Placed in Class B were: "Barbary Coast Gent," M-G-M, and "Sign of the Cross," Paramount-DeMille.

'Dragon Seed' Does $4,100 Over Par

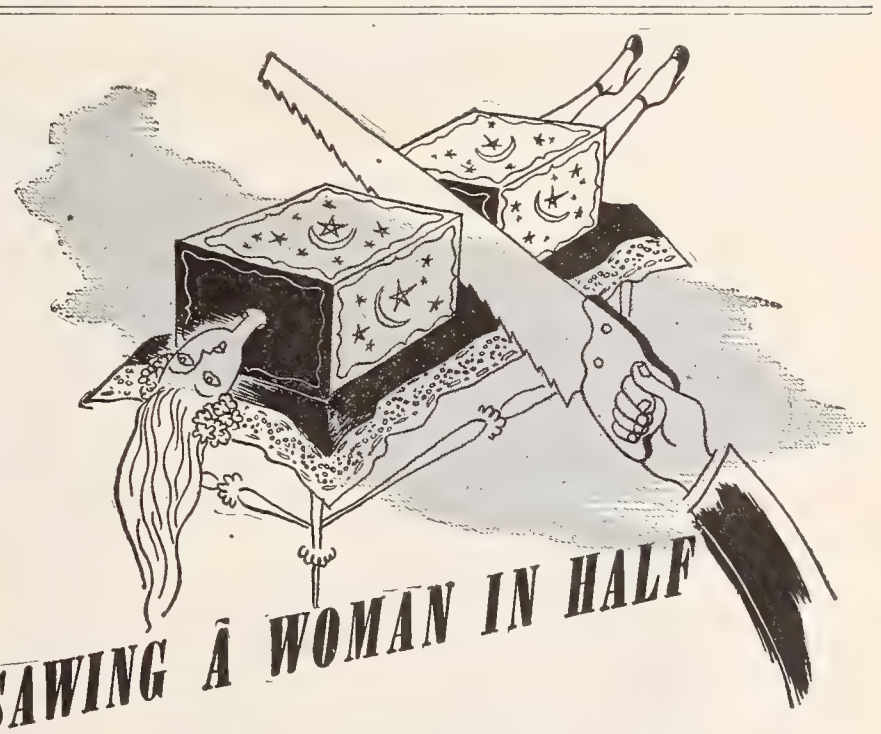
ST. LOUIS, Aug. 16.—Box office receipts rose with the temperature in St. Louis this week. In one of the hottest weeks of the Summer, "Dragon Seed" at Loew's looks like a strong $23,000, with "Going My Way" grossing $20,000 in its fourth week at the Ambassador.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 16:

"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,700).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,900).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,700).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,100).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $6,100).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,200).

Dallas Gets New House

DALLAS, Aug. 16.—The Beverly Hills Theatre in the Beverly Hills section here is scheduled to open Aug. 21. J. R. Euler, local representative of Tri-States Theatres, will manage.



We all, occasionally, like to watch a magician saw a lady in half because we all, occasionally, like to be fooled. But not when buying projection room service. Altec employs no tricks in giving you day-in, day-out break-down protection. Our engineers may not be Houdinis, but they can keep your booth in a nice healthy glow all the time.

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"Oh boy, have I got a new record!"



"This one is a beaut!"



"You've got to be good to be a leader for twenty years!"

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

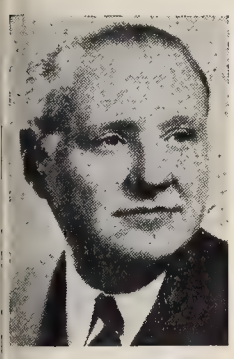
VOL. 56. NO. 34 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Schaefer to Hawaii for Navy Survey

Asked to Arrange for Early Film Showings

George J. Schaefer, national chairman of the War Activities Committee, is en route to Hawaii, where, at the request of the Navy Department, he will make a study of the entire distribution of 35 and 16-mm entertainment films.



George J. Schaefer

Schaefer, whose soldier son was killed in Normandy on the first day of the invasion, will make the study with Capt. John L. Reynolds, director of Welfare of the the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

The war zone trip of the WAC

(*Continued on page 6*)

Meet Today on Raw Stock Allocations

Film company executives will meet here again today to further discuss the cuts in raw stock that will have to be made on an individual company basis to conform with the WPB's order to cut 65,000,000 feet in raw stock allocations during the third quarter. Progress is being made in allocating raw stock on the basis of critical needs so that production and distribution schedules can be maintained, it was learned.

Raw stock allocations for the 11 companies as cut by the WPB during the current quarter will provide 255,000,000 feet instead of the 320,000,000 available during each of the first two quarters of 1944.

65 Postwar Video Permits Pending

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—Sixty-five applications from 24 states for permission to build commercial television stations are now pending before the Federal Communications Commission, with many more expected before the Government raises the war-time ban

(*Continued on page 6*)

Col. Planning U.K. Pictures

Conversations have been held among Columbia home office executives, including Joseph A. McConville, general foreign manager, with a view to setting plans to produce pictures in England geared to the world market, Joseph Friedman, Columbia's managing director in London, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday. The films would be made after the termination of the war in Europe, when studio space becomes available.

Columbia is currently producing two films a year in Britain, starring George Formby, thereby satisfying quota requirements in addition to making some profit, Friedman said.

Friedman revealed that Columbia has purchased the film rights to the London stage play, "A Soldier for Christmas," a comedy, which it hopes to film in the Spring in England. The

(*Continued on page 6*)

U. S. Rules Stock Option Is Salary

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17—Many film company executives are seen as being affected by a new Internal Revenue Bureau ruling designed for the wage stabilization program. The Bureau has ruled that the value of options granted to employes to buy stock in the employe's company must be treated as salary.

The decision applies to any option granted after Oct. 2, 1942, effective date of the Stabilization Act.

The amount of salary payments resulting from any such option is to be

(*Continued on page 6*)

British Centered In Six Studios

As a result of requisitioning by the Government, conversion into factories or storage space, and destruction from enemy bombing, theatrical production in England is now confined to only six studios, according to Joseph Friedman, Columbia's managing director in London, now in New York.

The six are: Denham, Gainsborough, Shepherd's Bush, Hammersmith, Rock and Welwyn.

Monogram's Sales Up 70% in Year

Monogram's sales have shown a 70 per cent increase during the past year, while collections have increased 60 to 64 per cent during the same period,



Scott Dunlap

Steve Broidy, general sales manager, told company and trade press representatives at a luncheon at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday for Scott Dunlap, Monogram producer, who is visiting in New York. Broidy said credit for the improvement belongs to Monogram's production department.

In a brief talk subsequently, Dunlap

(*Continued on page 6*)

Upswing in Neighborhoods' Demand for Premiums

BOSTON, Aug. 17.—Contrary to a belief that premiums are a depression business, exhibitors are finding that the demand made by theaters in towns and cities outside Boston for this sort of stimulation greatly exceeds the supply of merchandise. Bingo and similar games have been ruled out in Bostson and vicinity, but orders for the dish and glassware type "give aways" are still strong. In many instances the premium industry cannot handle all of the business offered because of a shortage of such commodities.

Just as the economic condition

(*Continued on page 6*)

CIO vs. AFL to Get Chicago Managers

Chicago, Aug. 17.—CIO organizers have been here for several weeks in an effort to organize theatre managers, despite the aims of the AFL, through its IATSE, which has long had its eye on the local managerial field and is expected to start its own drive within a few weeks.

'44-45 Total Up 10%, 1st Jump Since 1941-42

Reports of Additional Cuts Are Unfounded

Earlier pre-seasonal anticipations of a continuance next season of the trend toward a further reduction of features, which has marked each period since the Pearl Harbor season of 1941-42, had no foundation in fact, it is now disclosed in a check on the product promises of the 11 companies, which shows a ten per cent increase in features for 1944-45.

The 1941-42 product high of 534 releases, which dropped to 468 in 1942-43, and to 427 this season, will rise to a minimum of 462 and a maximum of 479

(*Continued on page 6*)

Hertz Heads Sixth War Loan Publicity

John Hertz, Jr., chairman of the board of Buchanan and Co., advertising agency, has accepted the post of director of publicity for the forthcoming Sixth War Loan.



John Hertz, Jr.

A graduate of Cornell University, Hertz is a veteran of more than 15 years in the advertising field. His duties as promotion pilot of the publicity phase of the Sixth War Loan, beginning on Nov. 11 and winding up on Dec. 7, add to several major

(*Continued on page 6*)

Three Added to WAC Exhibitor Group

Malcolm Kingsberg, head of RKO theatres; Martin Smith, president of Allied, and Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, have been added to the roster of the WAC theatres division executive committee, S. H. Fabian, chairman of the division, reported yesterday.

Personal Mention

SAMUEL BRONSTON, United Artists producer, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

•

JOE GOLTZ, United Artists manager in Mexico, and MRS. GOLTZ have become the parents of a nine-pound, ten-ounce baby boy. GOLTZ is here attending a UA foreign managers sales meeting.

•

CHARLES R. WADE, Universal branch manager in Salt Lake City, has returned to his desk after a three-month illness. WILLIAM PARKER, Los Angeles salesman, replaced WADE during his absence.

•

BLANCHE LIVINGSTON, assistant publicity director for RKO Theatres, and GERTRUDE MERRIAM, associate editor of *The Managers' Round Table*, will return Monday from a two-week vacation at Loon Lake.

•

ELKAN REINER and MRS. REINER became the parents of a baby girl on Wednesday at Lenox Hill Hospital here. REINER is in charge of Warners' home office stenographic department.

•

SAMMY TIMBERG, musical director for Paramount Famous Studios, and MRS. TIMBERG are parents of a seven-pound baby girl born this week at Gotham Hospital here.

•

ROBERT RISKIN, director of the Office of War Information overseas motion picture bureau, is on a 15-day vacation.

•

AL KENT, Universal salesman in Chicago, is seriously ill in St. Luke's Hospital in that city.

Bolivia Raises Money Exports to $25,000

Bolivia, which has previously limited the export of money derived from film sales to $10,000 per month for all companies, has increased the amount permitted to be exported monthly to $25,000, as the result of a new ruling by the Bolivian Ministry of Finance, according to word received here yesterday.

All American distributors transact their business through three native distributors. Despite partial relaxation on the limitation on the export of film funds, it is understood that 50 per cent of all money which is forthcoming to American companies is still frozen.

Redmond in Shift to Omaha for Singer

OMAHA, Aug. 17.—John Redmond, RKO division manager of Singer Theatres, has moved the circuit's headquarters to the Brandeis Theatre Building here, from Chicago. Redmond managed the circuit for the Singer interests and when RKO acquired complete control of the circuit on July 1, Redmond continued in that capacity.

Abbott and Costello May Get Steel Pier

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 17.—A syndicate headed by Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, are revealed as bidding for the purchase of Steel Pier, boardwalk amusement center, which Frank P. Gravatt, owner, has announced is for sale for $1,500,000. Gravatt gave Abbott and Costello their start at the pier.

Others reported interested are said to be Edward Sherman, head of Biltmore Productions; Samuel H. Stiefel, Philadelphia theatre circuit head, and Mickey Rooney.

Dipson Bankruptcy Action Delayed

BUFFALO, Aug. 17.—Dipson Realty Co., Inc., real estate holding company of Dipson-operated theatres here, has been permitted to remain as "debtor in possession" of its assets pending final determination of a petition filed in U. S. District Court, the petition requesting that Dipson be allowed to make an arrangement with creditors under chapter XI of the Bankruptcy Act.

By continuing the realty company as "debtor in possession," Federal Judge John Knight permits it to continue operating the business and authorizes the present officers to pay wages and other claims essential to daily operations. The arrangement suggested by the company will be argued at a date to be fixed, before Judge Knight.

The petition lists liabilities of $363,692 and assets of $466,102. Court approval is requested of a plan whereby three holders of $110,000 in promissory notes would receive instead one share of preferred stock, which Dipson proposes to issue for each $100 of indebtedness. The promissory notes are held by the following in these amounts:

Nikitas D. Dipson, president, $58,154; Andrew Gibson, secretary-treasurer, $25,922, and Samuel L. Yellen, stockholder, who owns 50 shares of the company's 200 shares of common stock, $25,922. The other common stock is held by Dipson, Gibson and William J. Dipson, vice-president.

Pending the outcome of the Federal court proceedings, Judge Knight ordered stayed a suit filed in Supreme Court July 17 by Yellen as a stockholder-creditor seeking to recover the principal and accrued interest on the notes he holds.

N.J. Colquhoun Promoted

MEMPHIS, Aug. 17.—Norman J. Colquhoun, for the last two years branch manager for Republic here has been promoted to branch manager at Dallas reporting there on Aug. 21. Colquhoun, before joining Republic here two years ago, was for 16 years with RKO in this Memphis territory and is one of the best known film men in the Mid-South area.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 17

MORE than $10,000 was raised for the House of Nazareth Orphanage in Van Nuys from the premiere of Paramount's "Going My Way" at the Hollywood Paramount Theatre Tuesday night.

•

William Pine and William Thomas have launched their 1944-45 program for Paramount with "Dangerous Passage," which went before the cameras today.

•

Norman B. Rydge, chairman of the board of British Imperial films, has arrived from Australia, where the company distributes Monogram's product. He will remain a week.

•

Mike Todd entrains for New York next Monday.

•

George D. Burroughs returned from the Monogram convention and a visit to the New York office.

•

Hal Wallis borrowed William Dieterle from David O. Selznick to direct "Love Letters".

•

Universal has announced an untitled modern comedy drama as the next vehicle for Maria Montez after "Queen of the Nile."

•

New 'U' Assignment For Ken Goldsmith

Ken Goldsmith, Universal's British West Indies manager, will arrive here from Trinidad at the end of the month for a new foreign assignment, J. H. Seidelman, 'U's' vice-president in charge of foreign activities reported here yesterday.

Goldsmith will be succeeded by Saul Jacobs, former head-booker for Universal at Washington, whose appointment was disclosed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 1.

RKO Honors Coopers

CHICAGO, Aug. 17—RKO yesterday honored Mr. and Mrs. Gary Cooper en route East, at a luncheon at the Blackstone Hotel here in connection with the star's current four-week tour of Army and Navy hospitals. Attending the luncheon were members of the trade press, newspaper critics, independent theatre owners and RKO executives. LeRoy Johnson, publicist for International Pictures, is accompanying the Coopers on the trip. Cooper who is planning to produce, will host members of the New York trade press at luncheon on Tuesday at Toots Shor's.

TBA Board to Meet

The board of directors of the Television Broadcasters Association will meet Aug. 25 at the Mohawk Golf Club, Schenectady. Following the meeting members of the board will be guests of General Electric at dinner and on a tour of GE's studios.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
EXTRA! BRITISH IMPERIALISM - 1944
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME

Darryl F. Zanuck's
WILSON
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by HENRY KING
Written for the Screen by
LAMAR TROTTI
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 160
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

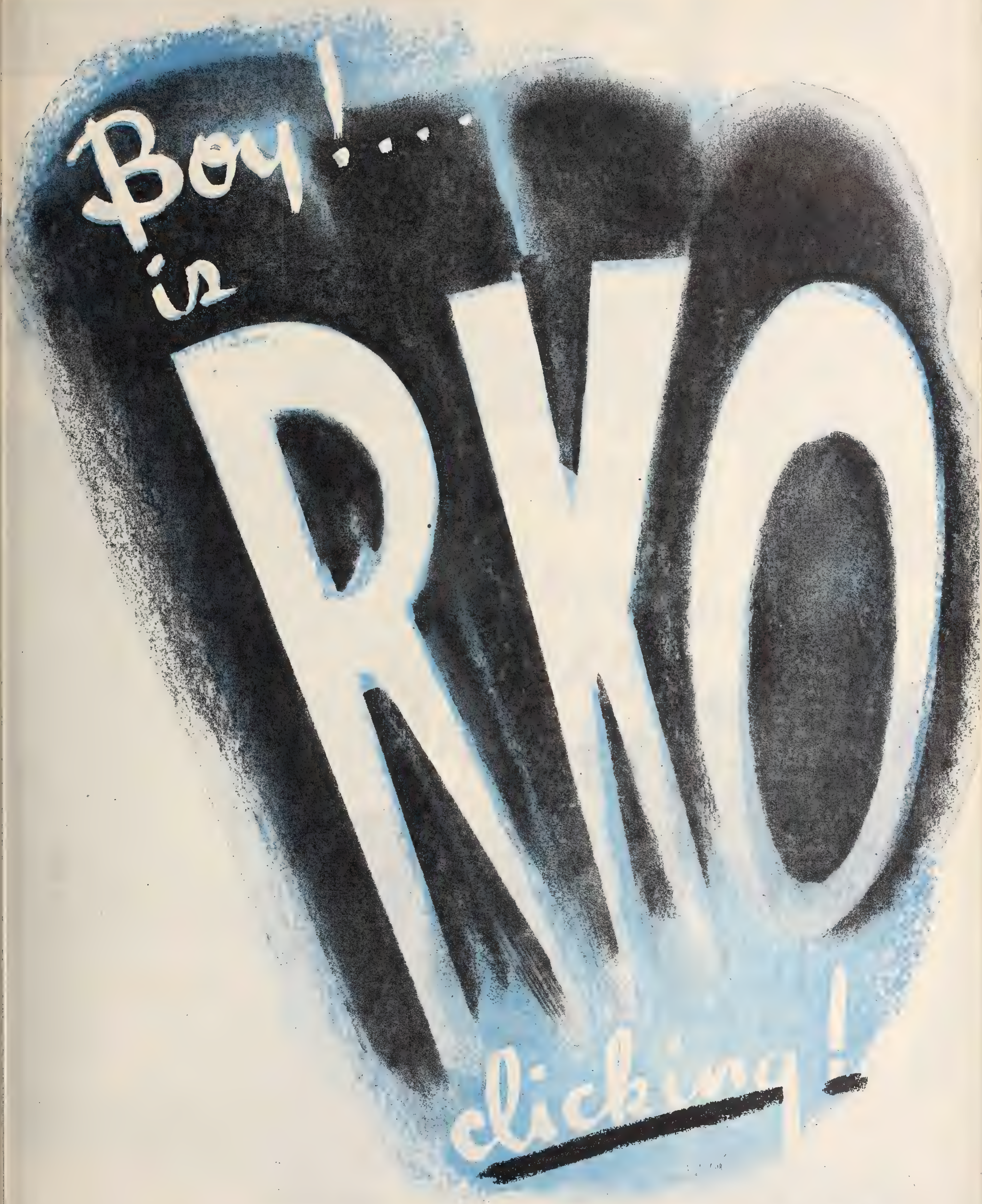
8TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
CARY GRANT
Janet Blair
'ONCE UPON A TIME'
IN PERSON
HENRY JEROME and ORCH.
PAUL WINCHELL
JANE PICKENS

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

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LOOK WHAT'S HERE NOW! . .

A SWELL ROMANTI

Bride By



ALAN MARSHAL
LARAINE DAY

in

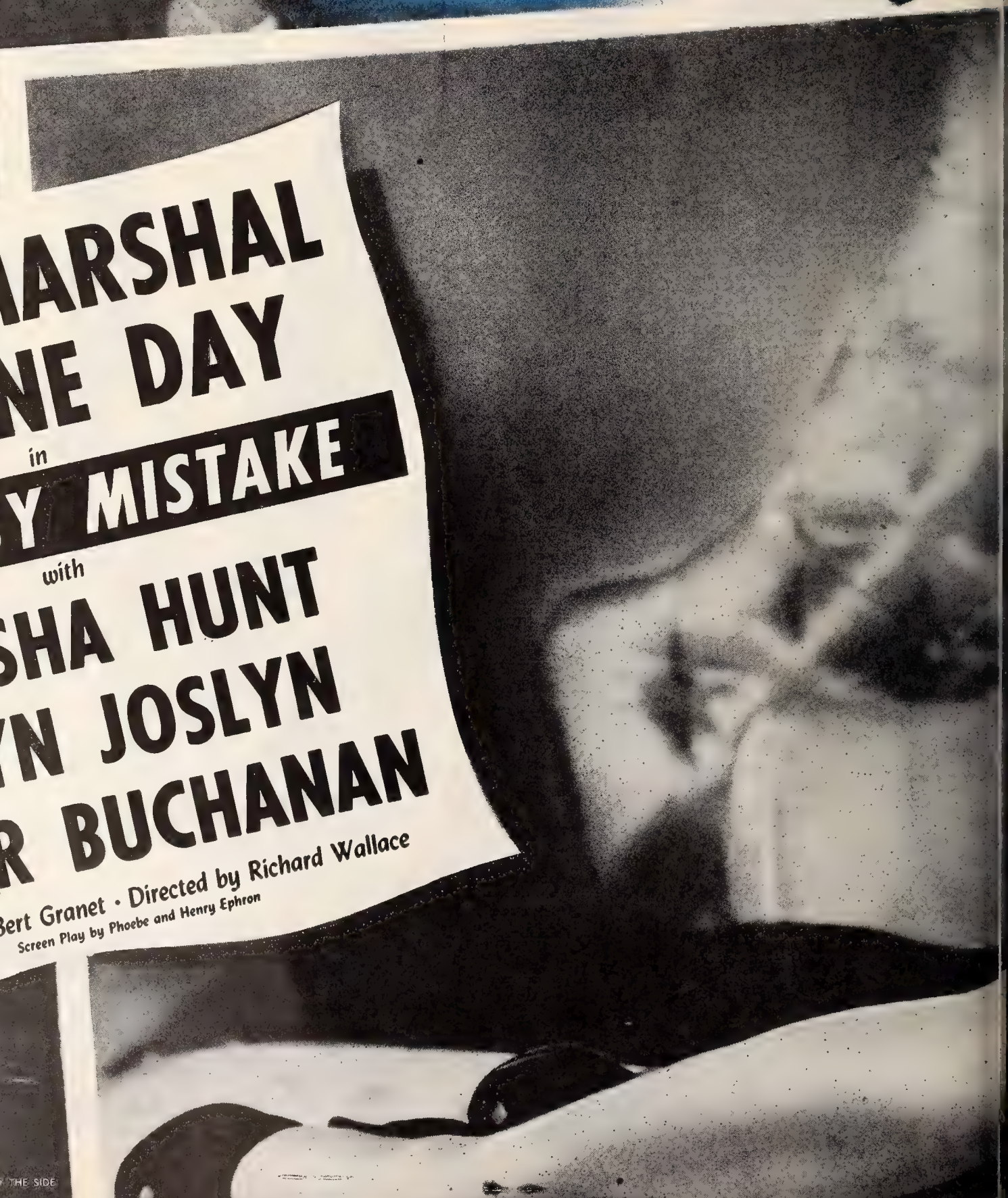
BRIDE BY MISTAKE

with

MARSHA HUNT
ALLYN JOSLYN
EDGAR BUCHANAN

Produced by Bert Granet · Directed by Richard Wallace

Screen Play by Phoebe and Henry Ephron



R K O RADIO PICTURES

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

AUGH SHOW WITH THAT RISKY-FRISKY FEELING!

The limit in love-tests by a knockout million-heiress knee deep in handsome pilots!... A hayride of hysterics until she gets the right one hooked!... Big-time names in a big-time show for TOP-DRAWER BOX OFFICE!

Mistake



TUNE IN!
CASH IN!

RKO's great radio program . . . Now selling seats for YOU! 15 minutes daily Coast to Coast over 177 stations of the Blue Network.

HOLLYWOOD STAR TIME

12:15 P. M. daily
Monday through Friday
Pacific Coast time

'44-45 Total Up 10%, 1st Jump Since 1941-42

(*Continued from page* 1)

in 1944-45, based on programs outlined by the 11 companies for the year starting Sept. 1.

The jump next season will not only be found in the number of releases promised, but also in the totals of high-bracket productions, color pictures and Westerns, it is learned in the 11-company check-up made by *Motion Picture Herald* and published today. Color pictures will rise from 24 this season to 41 in 1944-45, and Westerns will be increased from 67 to 73.

May Increase Specials

The number of specials sold outside the regularly established blocks, which reached a total of 11 in the current season, may be further increased in 1944-45. Six such films already have been announced: M-G-M's "Dragon Seed" and "An American Romance"; 20th-Fox's "Song of Bernadette," which started pre-release runs early this year, and "Wilson," and Columbia's "A Song to Remember" and "Jubal Troops," a Gary Cooper vehicle still in preparation.

The unprecedented number of 22 reissues in 1943-44 may not be reached during the coming year, although 11 are now in prospect. These include: "Waterloo Bridge" and "Naughty Marietta," which M-G-M will release in September and November, and DeMille's "Sign of the Cross," released by Paramount, as well as Republic's eight Gene Autry re-releases.

All companies reflect some of the new season's trends in their new schedules. Unusually large product backlogs suggest, too, a long-term planning which should reinforce these trends for the next year or two.

Next Season's Product

Columbia next season is down for 58 features, 10 of which will be Westerns, with two or three of the regular features in color, against 53 features, 10 Westerns and one color film in the current season. M-G-M has 36 features planned, eight in color, against 33 features this year, six in color. Monogram is set for 47 features next year, with 16 in the Western category; the company will have 40 features and 14 Westerns this season.

Paramount's 1944-45 total is between 25 and 30, five in color, with 32 released this year, four in color. PRC's next season total will run between 40 and 45, 16 of them Westerns; in the current season there will be 40 features, 16 of them Westerns. RKO Radio's 1944-45 total jumps to 50, eight in color, 11 more than the 39 of this year, only three of which are in color.

Republic jumps to 64 next season, from 60 this year, and will increase its Westerns from 20 this year to 24 next. Twentieth Century-Fox is down for 28 features, nine in color, against the current season's 29 features, six in color. United Artists will have 32 next year, none in color, compared to 26 this season, one in color. Universal will raise its 56 features of this season to 62 next, and increase its color pictures from two this year to seven next; the Western schedule next season will remain at seven. Warner Bros. will have 19 this year, and probably 20 to 25 next.

Schaefer to Hawaii On Navy Film Study

(*Continued from page* 1)

chairman is the result of a communication from Vice-Admiral Randell Jacobs, chief of Navy personnel, to Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the WAC distributors' division, in which Vice-Admiral Jacobs stated: "It is essential that some solution be arrived at to permit the exhibition of pictures in Hawaii which have been released in the United States and at the earliest possible date following such release."

Vice-Admiral Jacobs declared that the Navy would "appreciate" any action the WAC would intiate. Depinet and Francis S. Harmon, co-ordinator for the WAC, were in Hollywood when Admiral Jacob's communication was received. They cleared with Schaefer by long distance, and he immediately volunteered to fly to Hawaii to conduct the survey. Schaefer and Capt. Reynolds are expected to remain in Hawaii several weeks.

65 Postwar Video Permits Pending

(*Continued from page* 1)

against television building. The number of applications pending, and those expected, reflects the tremendous postwar television expansion anticipated.

The first major film company to file for television facilities in Hollywood was Warner Brothers. It is reportedly now negotiating for a studio site.

To get television ready for the public, approximately $25,000,000 has been invested in research and development by the radio industry, according to James H. Carmine, vice-president in charge of merchandising for Philco Corp. It was disclosed that a recent survey indicated 86 per cent of the public would like to have television receivers in their homes.

U. S. Rules Stock Option Is Salary

(*Continued from page* 1)

determined by the difference between the option price and the market price of the stock at the time the option was exercised. Any option with an acertainable market value at the time it is granted also is to be treated as a salary payments under the Bureau's ruling. The exercise or sale of options granted to employes before Oct. 2, 1942, does not require approval of the bureau.

Monogram's Sales Up 70% in Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

paid tribute to the Monogram sales force under Broidy. While in New York Dunlap will line up talent for "Sunbonnet Sue," his next production.

Other company representatives at the luncheon included George B. West, Madeleine White, M. E. Morey, Lloyd Lind, J. J. Felder, Nat Furst, John S. Harrington and H. Albin Mestanza.

To Build Negro Theatre

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 17.—Construction of a new Negro theatre will get underway soon, it was reported here by Joe W. Solomon who will operate the house.

Col. Planning U. K. Pictures

(*Continued from page* 1)

company has no plans for acquiring or constructing theatres in Britain, Friedman said.

Columbia's London director declared that American companies will move into British production after studio space has been restored. The company has distributed some British films in the U. S., Friedman said, among them Irving Asher's "The Invaders" and "U-Boat 29." It is currently distributing "Underground Guerillas," an Ealing production.

Friedman recently returned from the Coast where he viewed new season product and conferred with studio officials. He is also in this country to discuss activities of the War Activities Committee of the U. S. film industry in Britain, of which he is chairman. This committee, Friedman said, is concerned with supplying American troops with 16mm. films.

Columbia's managing director in London was recently elected to the British Films Council of the Board of Trade as a distributor representative. He will return to London around Sept. 1, winding up a two-months' stay in this country.

Hertz Heads Sixth War Loan Publicity

(*Continued from page* 1)

assists by him to patriotic and charitable campaigns, including the recently-concluded Fifth War Loan.

Hertz will attend a meeting here today, called by Harry Brandt, national chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan committee, at which Ted Gamble, national War Finance director, will outline the Treasury's aims in the forthcoming campaign. War Activities Committee officials Francis S. Harmon, S. H. Fabian, Arthur L. Mayer and Ed Schreiber will be present at the conference, which will be held at Brandt's home in Westchester.

Gauker, Booth and Sogg Due Monday

Foster B. Gauker, manager of M-G-M's Indianapolis branch; Edward M. Booth, Cincinnati manager, and Jack Sogg, head of the company's Cleveland office, are due in New York on Monday for a week's conference with department heads at the home office.

B. D. Stoner, Pittsburgh manager, who spent the past week in New York, will leave for his office tomorrow. Burtus Bishop, Jr., M-G-M district manager with headquarters in Dallas, who also visited the home office this week, will leave on Sunday for a vacation in Minnesota, accompanied by Mrs. Bishop and their son.

Graham Turns Exhibitor

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 17.—John Graham, United Artists salesman, who has owned the Rio at Goodman, Mo., for two years, has opened a second theatre, the Bandbox, at Neosho, Mo., and in the future will give his entire time to managment of these houses.

Neighborhoods' Demand For Premiums

(*Continued from page* 1)

created by the depression induced the theater goer to take advantage of the premiums, so does the scarcity of merchandise now in the retail market increase demands on the part of the public for the articles offered. Dishes and glassware are not easily secured. There are times when they cannot be found on the retail market at all. Thus the scarcity of materials has heightened the demands for premiums today just as much as the scarcity of money heightened it during the depression.

First-run theaters and, in general, Boston theaters do not look to the premium industries for extra incitement for the public. Instead, they can rely on advertising, the quality of their pictures and the advantage of a first run as means of drawing and stimulating business. Also, the top-flight picture theaters find that the premiums have little appeal. It may be that those theaters whose price of admission is necessarily higher attract an audience whose financial means leaves them with less desire and less need of such goods.

However, there are always subsequent-run theaters, and here the demand for premiums is still strong, and the premium industries are filling this demand as they are able. The difficulty in procuring merchandise enough to take care of all the orders is the most formidable problem encountered by the premium industries.

Condon, Ferris to Exploit 'Song'

Columbia has further augmented its special exploitation staff for the forthcoming color production, "A Song to Remember," with the addition of Richard Condon to handle national magazine exploitation, and Earle Ferris, given the radio exploitation assignment.

The film will be given "the most extensive advertising, publicity and exploitation campaign in the company's history," according to Frank P. Rosenberg, advertising-publicity director.

AFM Still Refuses to Make Recordings

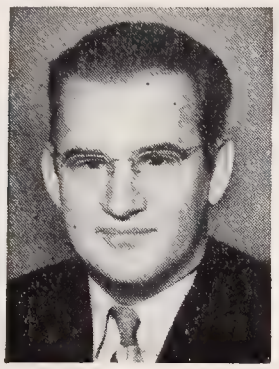
WASHINGTON, Aug. 17—The American Federation of Musicians has again refused to obey a War Labor Board directive ordering the union to lift its ban on the making of recordings for Columbia Recording, National Broadcasting and RCA.

Joseph A. Padway, counsel for the union said here today that the union "cannot comply with the order of the board because in this case the war effort is not involved."

Miss Jones Aids 'Cross'

Jennifer Jones will make personal appearances in Indianapolis and St. Louis during the week of Sept. 10-17 in connection with the Red Cross Home-Nursing Corps drive. Miss Jones, a nurse's aid off-screen, recently completed a tour of Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Chicago shipyards, hospitals, army camps, canteens and war plants.

This man wrote in a famous New York newspaper—



"I am not one to tell other people what to do with their lives, but...

..."I can assure you that no hou
can be more thoroughly v
hours spent missing all the gl



HAIL THE CONQUE A



This is probably the most forceful recommendation of a motion picture that has ever been printed. Yet it is just an *average sample* of a New York world premiere reception so unrestrained and overwhelming that it proves beyond any possible shadow of doubt that "Hero" is

A Greater ~~Another~~ "Miracle" from Pres and Eddie Bracken

Par

TOPPED "MIRACLE'S" OPENING DAY BY 1500 ADMISSIONS AT NEW YORK PARAMOUNT!

s of any life
asted than
ious fun of

ING
ERO"



Says Alton Cook in N. Y. World-Telegram

on Sturges
nd Wm. Demarest
and
amount



THE QUESTION
OF THE HOUR—

"IS IT AS GOOD AS 'MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK'?"

AND HERE IS THE
UNANIMOUS ANSWER—

* * *

N. Y. Mirror says: "This one has everything 'The Miracle' had, plus. It is more adult, deeper, hits a truer note, is far **FUNNIER.**"

* * *

PM says: "**BETTER** than 'The Miracle' on several counts."

* * *

Pic says: "If you saw 'The Miracle of Morgan's Creek' you could be just a little bit skeptical of anybody's flat statement that this is **BETTER** and **FUNNIER.** But that's my opinion."

* * *

Modern Screen says: "Even **FUNNIER** than 'Miracle'."

* * *

Movies Magazine says: "**BETTER** than 'Miracle'."

* * *

Variety says: "As funny as its predecessor, only with **MORE HUMAN** interest."

* * *

Hollywood Reporter says: "**TOP** of Sturges' hits... None has hit the heart such a body blow."

TOO MANY GREAT REVIEWS TO REPRINT HERE!

TO GET COMPLETE STORY, SEE NEXT PAGE . . .

We'd need the next 12 pages



to reprint ALL the sensational world premiere raves—far more space than is available under present restrictions. Yet they are so vitally important in determining the proper playing time for this picture that we know every alert exhibitor will want to read them in their entirety. So . . .

SEND COUPON FOR COMPLETE
REVIEWS OF ANOTHER SUPER-HIT FROM PARAMOUNT

HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO

starring

EDDIE BRACKEN with Ella Raines

Wm. DEMAREST • Raymond Walburn • Franklin Pangborn • Elizabeth Patterson • Bill Edwards

Written and Directed by PRESTON STURGES

Remember "Miracle"...
Remember "Going My Way"...and
DON'T BOOK ANY PICTURE
BACK OF THIS ONE
Till You've Found Out Exactly
How Great "Hero" Really Is!
MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

Mr. Charles M. Reagan
Vice-President In Charge of Distribution
Paramount Pictures
Paramount Building, N. Y. C.

Dear Mr. Reagan:

Please send me a complete set of tear-sheets of the New York n
paper and national magazine reviews of "Hail The Conquering He

NAME .....

THEATRE .....

ADDRESS .....

'Dragon Seed' Takes Minneapolis Lead

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 17.—"Dragon Seed," at the State Theatre, took the boxoffice lead away from "Going My Way" at the Radio City, for the first time in four weeks, grossing $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

'Divorce of Lady X" (UA-reissue)
WORLD (350) (44c-60c-70c-80c) 7 days, 2nd wek. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $2,300).

'Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 8 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000).

'Going My Way" (Para.)
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,-600).

'Step Lively" (RKO)
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,500).

'The Heavenly Body" (M-G-M)
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,500).

'Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STATE—(2,300) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000).

'Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,800).

'Black Magic" (Mono.) 4 days

'Frontier Outlaws" (PRC) 4 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with mid-week change. Gross: $2,300. (Average: 2,500).

$20,000 for 'Way' In Fourth Week

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 17.—"Going My Way," which entered its fourth week with an estimated gross of $20,000, will make way for "Mr. Skeffington" next week. Already the Crosby it has upset the late summer schedule at the Penn, holding up several "A" pictures.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 18:

FULTON—Still closed for repairs. Will reopen Aug. 25 with Deanna Durbin in Christmas Holiday."

Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,100).

Going My Way" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,700).

Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $3,000).

The Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,400).

Step Lively" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,350).

Grierson Talks on Rural Showings

MONTREAL, Aug. 17.—John Grierson, Canada's film commissioner, today addressed a conference of 59 experts in the use of films in rural adult education, who are convening today for a three-day conference at Cedar Lodge, near Georgeville on Lake Memphremagog.

Sponsored by the National Film Board, the conference is attended by men and women from the five provinces of Eastern Canada. It brings together film producers and projectionists who have been working on the rural film circuits which present Canadian films to thousands of rural people monthly.

Review

"The Merry Monahans"

(Universal)

MICHAEL FESSIER and Ernest Pagano, in their second whirl at production for Universal, have produced "The Merry Monohans," as a bright, tuneful musical, handsomely bedecked, and filled to brimming with the excellent performances of Jack Oakie, Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan and Ann Blyth. Here is unquestionably a tasty escapist dish for the cash customers.

Oakie delivers one of his most stunning performances, staying right on top with O'Connor and Miss Ryan, matching them step for step, and note for note. O'Connor is his usual attractive self and Miss Ryan works diligently.

A vaudeville song-and-dance man who is tricked into marrying Isabel Jewell, although he has proposed to Rosemary De Camp, his partner, Oakie brings up Donald and Miss Ryan, who eventually join the act. When Miss Jewell deserts the act, the trio goes to the big time. Years pass and the paths of Oakie and Miss De Camp cross again when Donald is attracted by Miss Blyth, her daughter by a previous marriage. Before Oakie can 'pop' the question, John Miljan, a broken down matinee idol, edges him out. Broken-hearted, he turns to drink. The Merry Monohans are eventually united on Broadway after Connors and Miss Ryan have taken Broadway by storm and induce their agent to use their father in their act.

The slender story thread merely serves as a springboard for Oakie's warm-hearted performance, the whimsical Connor humor and Miss Ryan, who ably delivers in dance, song and comedy. Miss Blyth graciously sings several melodies of which there are a score or more, both old and new. Irving Bibo and Don George contributed the modern tunes, outstanding of which are "Lovely" and "Stop Foolin' ". Charles Lamont directed.

Running time, 91 mins. "G."* Release date, Sept. 15.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Heat, Strike Hit Montreal Theatres

MONTREAL, Aug. 17.—Currently affecting Montreal box-offices are the hottest summer on record and a local "tram" strike, which, although settled on Aug. 14, sapped last week-end's box-office life. There was, however, evidence of a box-office recoup after 10 days of listlessness.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"Le Grand Mensonge" ("The Great Lie") (French reissue)
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,000).

"Thite White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500).

"Up in Mabel's Room" (UA)
"Voice in the Wind" (UA)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-45c-63c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000).

"Lady, Let's Dance" (Mono.)
"Three of a Kind" (Mono.)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (27c-34c-47c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500).

"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,-000).

Lifer Touhy Wants A Cool Million

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—Roger Touhy, gangster and convicted kidnaper now serving a life sentence at Stateville prison, has filed suit in U. S. District Court for $1,000,000 against 20th Century-Fox and Balaban and Katz Theatre Corp., alleging he was libeled in the film, "Roger Touhy, Gangster." He was previously denied an injunction to restrain the defendants from showing the film.

'SY' Set for Coast Premiere Aug. 23

David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away," being released through United Artists, will have its West Coast premiere Aug. 23 at the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco, it has been reported by Carl Leserman, sales manager. A large delegation from Hollywood is expected to be on hand for the opening.

'Wilson' in Phila. Sept. 8

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17—The Warner theatre circuit here has set a dual day-and-date opening for 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson" at the Earle and Alvine on Sept. 8. This marks the first time since "Gone With the Wind" that a film has had a dual showing here on its opening run. The Earle will dispense with vaudeville shows while "Wilson" runs.

'Wilson' to B. & K.

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—Balaban and Katz will play the first-run showing of "Wilson" here, although no definite deal has yet been made. The RKO circuit deal for "Wilson" does not include Chicago, since that circuit's local outlets, the Palace and Grand, are booked solidly with RKO and Universal product.

Hearst to Televise

Hearst Radio, Inc., has filed application with the Federal Communications Commission at Washington for the construction of a commercial television station in Baltimore.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 17

TOO often Hollywood, failing to allow for the dissimilarities between the stage and the screen, has imported top stage talent with indifferent results. In order to forestall such eventualities, some of the studios have instituted a policy of giving New York actors, writers and directors time to familiarize themselves with the new medium before attempting screen assignments. A case in point is the agreement between Lee Strassberg, New York Theatre Guild director, and 20th Century-Fox.

Strassberg went to the studio with the understanding that he would be allowed to devote himself to a study of film technique until such a time as he felt competent to direct a picture. That time, apparently, has arrived, for the studio has assigned him to direct William Bacher's production of "Bon Voyage." An adaptation of Josephine Lawrence's best-selling novel, "Tower of Steel," the picture is scheduled for early production, with Jeanne Crain, Anne Baxter and Joan Blondell in principal roles.

A similar agreement was made between Paramount and John Berry, New York stage director, who was brought out here some months ago to be groomed for screen directing. He has just been assigned to direct John Houseman's production of "Miss Susie Slagle's," in which Lillian Gish, Veronica Lake, Sonny Tufts and Billy DeWolfe will appear.

•

Lee Tracy has signed a new contract with RKO which calls for four pictures in two years. . . . Peter Godfrey will direct "Catch a Falling Star" for Warners. . . . James Ellison and Wanda McKay have been signed for leads in PRC's "Hollywood and Vine." . . . Jeff Donnell will have the feminine lead in "Tonight We Dance" at Columbia. . . . Lana Turner, Laraine Day and Susan Peters will head the all-star cast of M-G-M's untitled story of the WACs, which George Haight will produce and Eddie Buzzell will direct. . . . Joseph Tushinsky will be associate producer on Charles H. Rogers' next two musicals, "High Among the Stars" and "My Wild Irish Rose." . . . James Millican has been assigned an important role in Paramount's "Miss Susie Slagle's."

•

Clarence Muse has been signed by Warners for a role in "God Is My Co-Pilot," currently before the cameras. . . . Producers Pine and Thomas have cast Arthur Loft in their next production for Paramount, titled "Dangerous Passage." . . . "The Durango Kid in Trouble" is the tentative title of the fifth feature in Columbia's Western series starring Charles Starrett. . . . Mildred Natwick, Broadway actress, has been signed by RKO for an important role in the Harriet Parsons production of Pinero's "The Enchanted Cottage." . . . Edward Lilley will direct "Swing Out, Sister," for Universal . . . Shirley Patterson has been assigned her first dramatic role in M-G-M's "Dr. Red Adams." . . . Lou Harris will soon start shooting on "South of Paradise," his third for Paramount.

Denver Pays $31,200 For 'Skeffington'

DENVER, Aug. 17.—"Going My Ways" second week at the Denver hit $14,000, while "Mr. Skeffington" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire took $31,200. "Gaslight" on a twin bill at the Broadway was 100 per cent above normal, on a moreover.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 14-17:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,240. (Average: $5,600).
"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM (1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,275. (Average: $9,300).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"The Lady and the Monster" (Rep.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $5,000).

'Cliffs' Hits $15,200 In Toronto 1st Run

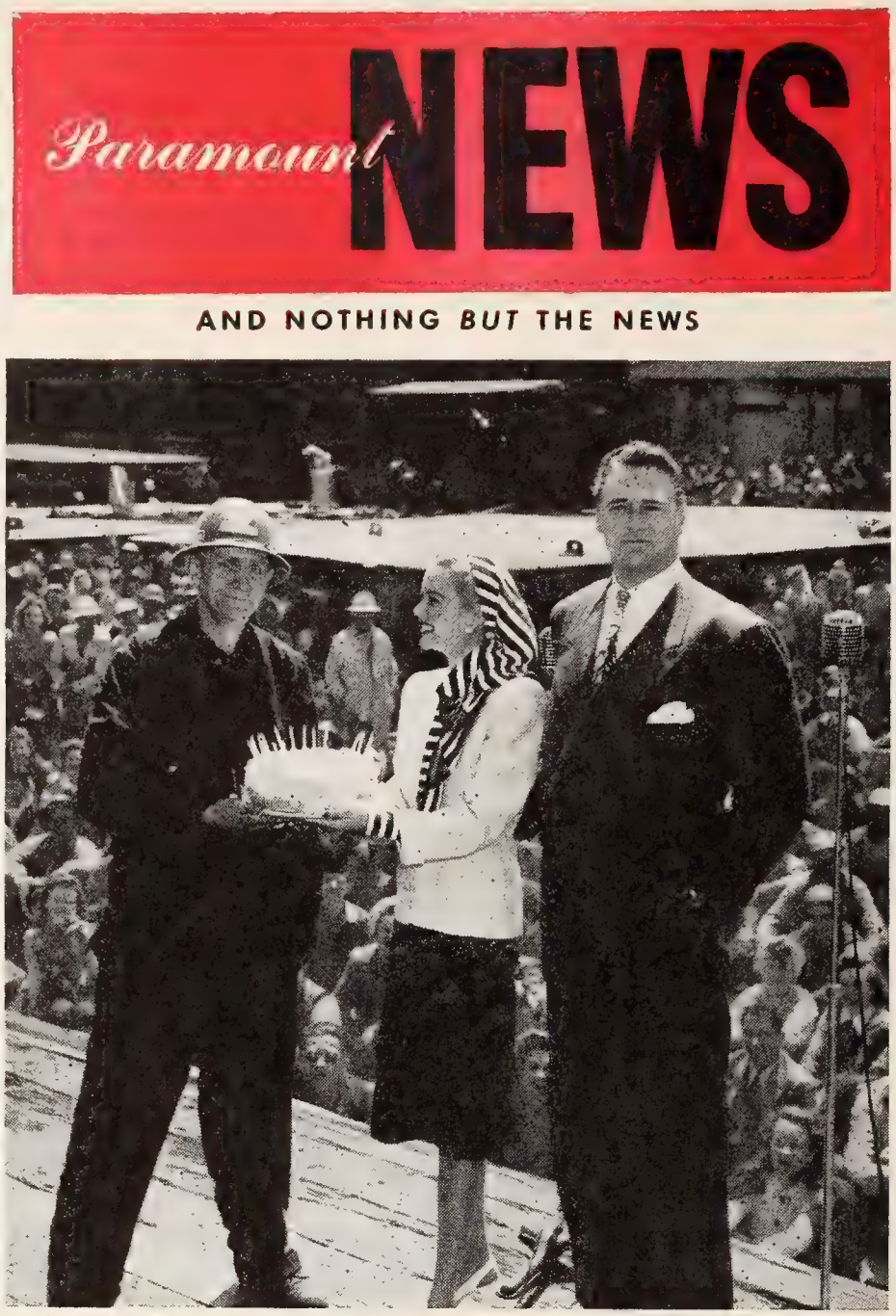
TORONTO, Aug. 17.—"The White Cliffs of Dover" continued to draw heavily at Loew's, taking $15,200 in its second week, while "The Story of Dr. Wassell" at Shea's Theatre for a fifth week, took in $9,300. "Christmas Holiday" opened big at the Uptown Theatre, with $12,800, the largest at this house in weeks.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"Secret Mission" (British)
"Bermuda Mystery" (20th-Fox)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $12,800).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $11,200).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,450) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $12,800).
"Uncertain Glory" (WB)
"Career Girl" (PRC)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $2,900. (Average: $4,400).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. Average: $9,800).

Theatres for Three Towns for 1st Time

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 17.—Theatres have been opened recently, or are to open shortly, in three small towns of this area previously without motion picture entertainment. A theatre has been built and is now being equipped through subscriptions by citizens, at Summerfield. John Fluty, a business man of Exeter, has taken over buildings for films in that town and also at Seligman, Mo., for two shows a week in each town. All three places are in the 400-population class.



'Holiday' Opens with Strong $24,000

CLEVELAND, Aug. 17.—"Christmas Holiday" opened big at Warner's Hippodrome, with an expected $24,000 for the week. "Canterville Ghost" is shooting at a high $12,500 at Loew's Stillman, and "Going My Way," in its fourth week at Loew's State, is grossing $23,500. Record hot weather has not hurt business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 16:

"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
WARNERS HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,100).
"Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200).
"Are These Our Parents" (Mono.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Abe Lyman orchestra. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $19,000).
"Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000).

$100,000 for 'Way' In Buffalo 5 Weeks

BUFFALO, Aug. 17.—With a big fifth week, the Great Lakes will record a total gross in excess of $100,000 for "Going My Way." The film has broken every existing long-run record for the big Shea house. The fifth week is expected to draw $16,600.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $17,400).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $16,200).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Are These Our Parents?" (Mono.)
"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore" (Mono.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,200).
"Follow the Boys" (Univ.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Follow the Boys." Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

'Indiana', 'Life' Hit $12,600 Apiece

OMAHA, Aug. 17.—"Home in Indiana" at the Paramount, and "The Canterville Ghost" and "This Is the Life" at the Orpheum tied for the week here with $12,600 each. Weather was hot.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 16-17:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Gildersleeve's Ghost" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $6,500).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 4th week, moveover from Orpheum. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $8,400).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $9,800).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $11,700).



SOMEWHERE ON NEW GUINEA: The above INS news-photo, showing the arrival of Jack Benny and his group of Hollywood USO performers, gives a hint of how war correspondents of Motion Picture Magazine, *as a matter of routine, get around.*

In the group are George Lait, INS Staff Correspondent; June Bruner; Larry Adler; Lewis Bowen, American Red Cross; Carole Landis; Asahel Bush; Martha Tilton; Jack Benny; Jack Mahon, INS; and Dick Day, American Red Cross Photographer. In the center, between Carole Landis and Martha Tilton, as part of the welcoming committee, is Will Oursler, Motion Picture's *war correspondent in the Pacific. This shot fairly illustrates the scope of Fawcett's editorial service to its millions of magazine readers. Further, it explains how* Motion Picture Magazine *and Fawcett Publications can speak lucidly on the contribution made by the motion picture industry to the happiness of American boys at the fighting fronts. Fawcett Publications, Inc., 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.*

Coming Events

Aug. 21—Cincinnati Variety Club annual golf tournament, Summit Hills Country Club, Cincinnati.

Aug. 25—Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Mohawk Golf Club, Schenectady.

Sept. 7-8—National Allied directors meeting, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire.

Sept. 10—National Screen Service sales meeting, New York.

Sept. 13—United Artists board meeting, New York.

Sept. 15—National Screen Service sales meeting, Chicago.

Sept. 21—National Screen Service sales meeting, Los Angeles.

Monogram Unsold

Monogram has awarded a $1,000 war bond to Pvt. Pasquel Ciocco, of the 609th Tank Destroyer Battalion, Camp Shelby, Miss. The bond was offered for a new title for "They Shall Have Faith," forthcoming Monogram release. However, Pvt. Ciocco set forth several reasons for retaining the original title and the film will be released under the original title.

Faye Sues 'U'

Universal was named defendants in an injunction and accounting suit filed in Federal Court here yesterday by Joseph F. Palladino, also known as Joey Faye, performer, who alleges infringement of his copyrighted act, "Floogle Street," in the Universal film, "This Is the Life."

'Twain' Frog Jump Banned in Boston

Boston, Aug. 17. — Art Moger, New England publicity agent for Warners, with the assistance of the local Warner office, is caring for 100 circus-trained frogs which were the proposed base of an exploitation stunt that went astray. Moger planned a frog jumping contest on Boston Common as a promotional stunt for "The Adventures of Mark Twain," to be sponsored by the Boys Clubs here.

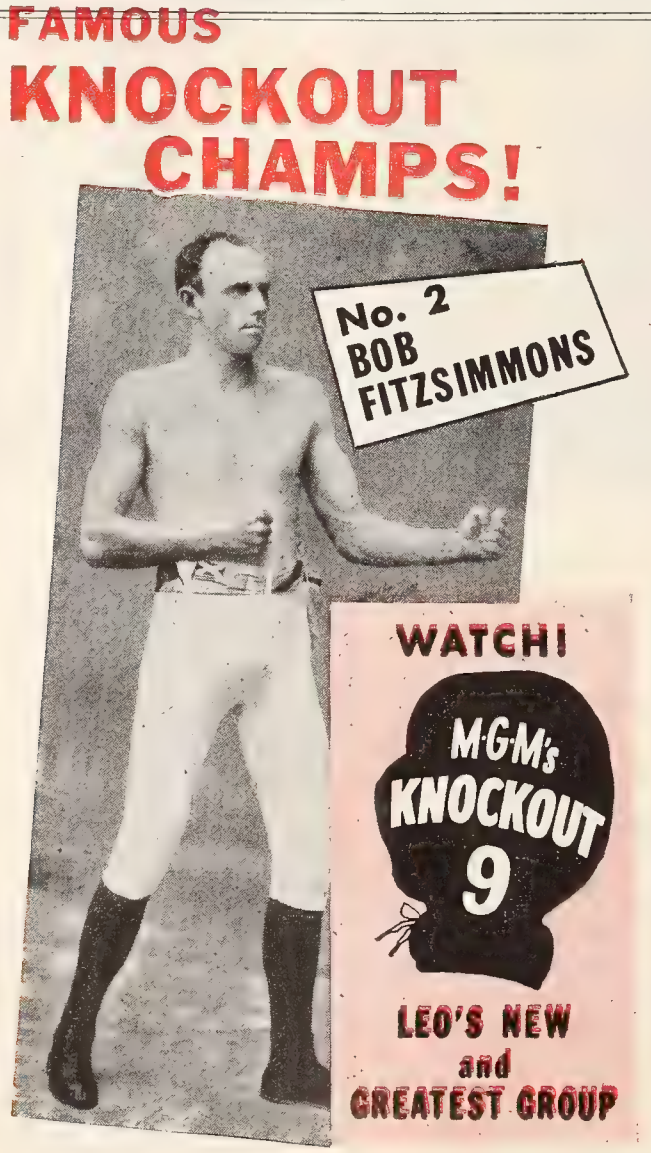
The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals stepped in and Moger with frogs stepped out. Warners purchased the lot for $25 and plans to distribute them to local boys. In the meantime Moger's frogs repose at the Warner headquarters here.

Host to UA Managers

In the absence of Lt. Col. Hal Roach, who is in active service on one of the fighting fronts, Grace Rosenfield, his Eastern representative, was host to the visiting United Artists Latin-American managers yesterday at luncheon at the 21 Club. Last night the managers were the guests of Archie Mayers, at a performance of "Carmen Jones."

Tighe, Fishman Resign

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17.—The resignations of publicists Jim Tighe of the Warner circuit and George Fishman of the Universal exchange were reported here this week. Tighe will join the OWI in New York next week.



Soviet Re-Entering The Color Field

The Soviet film industry is currently experimenting with a color process in a feature film in production at Mosfilm Studios in Moscow, according to Artkino, distributors of Russian product in this country. The film, titled "Ivan Nikulin, Russian Sailor," is being directed by Igor Savchenko, and is one of the first Russian color films for theatre usage.

The color process, details of which are unknown, if successful, could conceivably make Soviet product more acceptable commercially in this and other countries. Russia is understood to have had in production another color feature, "The Blue Bird," at a studio in Odessa, until the Germans captured the city. An earlier film, "The Nightingale," was released in this country in 1935 employing a two-color process.

In addition to technical difficulties which have undoubtedly confronted Russian technicians, color production has been limited by the fact that black-and-white production consumed all the energies of Soviet film makers.

Other films completed or in preparation in the Soviet, which are possibilities for American release, are: "Ivan the Terrible," a big-budget film produced and directed by Sergei Eisenstein; "Dmitri Donskoy," directed by Sergei Youtkevich; "Nakhimov," a Pudovkin production about a Russian naval hero; "Malakhov Hill," which is a story about the Black Sea Fleet sailors, and "Sky Over Moscow," directed by Yuri Risman.

Four musicals are: "Six P. M. Post-war," produced by Ivan Piriev, who did the current "They Met in Moscow"; "Sylvia," by Alexander Ivanovsky; and two others as yet untitled.

In production are "Bykovites," with Boris Babochkin, star of "Chapayev," in his first directorial assignment; a film about the Russian heroine Zoya Kosmodenyanskaya, who was hanged by the Germans; a documentary on the defeat of the Germans at Leningrad, and "Days and Nights," based on a novel of the battle of Stalingrad by Konstantine Simonov.

An Artkino spokesman revealed that the Russians are "definitely arriving at the point where they are trying to give their people recreation, after three years of war." In this country Russian musicals have the most appeal of Soviet product, he said, with the possible exception of documentaries.

Letters from Readers

To Motion Picture Daily:

MENARD, Tex.—How can the original purposes of the consent decree be so utterly lost in an action that will be calamitous? While the Department of Justice wilfully ignores the true needs of the situation and producer-distributors fight back after fumbling since the start of the game, what becomes of the independent exhibitor, and, incidentally, the public he serves? And this is America in war time!—*Henry Reeves, president of the Texas Theatre Owners Association.*

Omaha Area Doubles Previous Bond Sale

OMAHA, Aug. 17.—Bond sales for the Fifth War Loan campaign in this area totalled $34,171,182, more than double any previous effort, it has been reported by Harold Johnson, distributor chairman.

Special events in Omaha resulted in sales amounting to $27,397,850 with 124 Free Movie days, 86 evening premieres and 23 children's matinees, with regular sales making up the difference. Harry Langhorst, operator of a theatre at Hawarden, Ia., holds the record for small towns. He was responsible for sales amounting to $143,400.

Trans-Lux Gets Bond

The Trans-Lux Theatre in Washington was recently awarded a $100 War Bond for its effort in the Fifth War Loan campaign. Roland Robbins, manager, received the bond for exceeding his quota by 300 percent, the home office here reported yesterday.

Washington Exceeds Quota by $925,000

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—Washington film theatres exceeded their quota for the Fifth War Loan campaign by $925,500, it has been disclosed here by Sidney Lust, chairman of the theatre unit. The local quota for 'E' bonds was set at $2,285,000. Total bonds sold equalled $4,500,550 of which $3,210,500 came in the 'E' series.

The total figure surpasses results of all previous drives, Lust reported in his statement to John A. Reilly, chairman of the War Finance Committee, and John J. Payette and Carter To. Barron, co-chairman of the local War Activities Committee. Area leaders who received $50 bonds in recognition of their efforts were Henry G. Coon, Harry A. March, Sr., George J. Miller, Charles J. Dougherty, Bert Herman, Charles O. Clark, Nathan Stovitz, Fred D. McMillan and William C. Land.

$11,000 from Unions

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—The Musicians' Protective Union, Local 161, American Federation of Musicians and the Motion Picture Operators' Protective Union, Local 224, purchased $11,000 worth of war bonds during the Fifth War Loan drive, it has been reported by Sidney Lust, campaign chairman for the theatre drive in Washington. The projectionists' purchases amounted to $6,000.

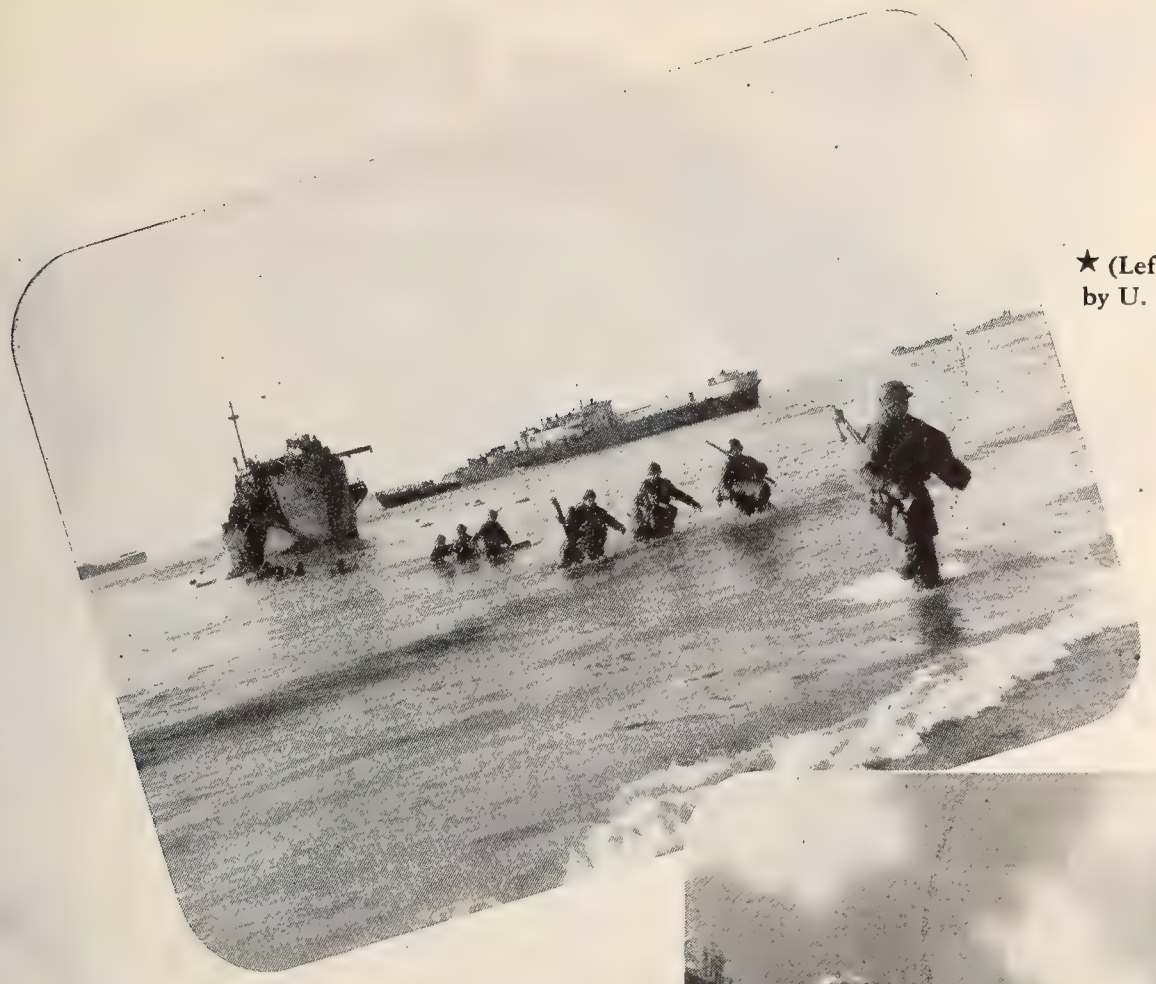
Century Gets 6½ Millions

Century circuit here was responsible for $6,500,000 in "E" bond sales during the Fifth War Loan drive through a "bond-guessing" contest and 15 bond premieres as well as regular sales.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE WANTED

Experienced, State Rights, all Territories, handling outstanding exploitation picture. Commission. Write qualifications and experience.

BOX NO. 231
MOTION PICTURE DAILY



★ (Left) Landing at Anzio. Photo by U. S. Army Signal Corps.

★ (Below) Over the top at Tarawa. Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo.



One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



No Rehearsals..No Retakes

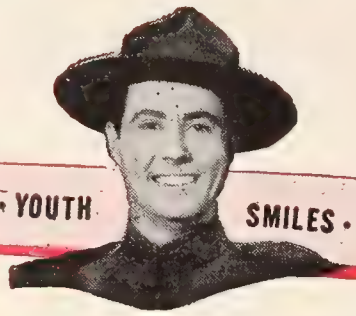
THE task of making combat movies is in capable hands. Photographic units in our Armed Forces are made up, for the most part, of men from the motion picture industry or men trained by experienced instructors from the industry. These cameramen have to have a "nose for news"—have to be quick on the trigger in more ways than one. They have to be right the first time—and they are.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR ... JOY REIGNS SUPREME



BEAUTY • MUSIC • YOUTH SMILES • SONGS

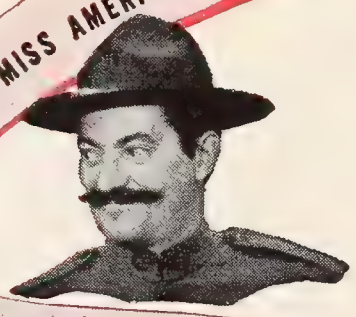
Remember:

"BY THE SEA"
"AIN'T MISBE-HAVIN'"
"AFTER YOU'VE GONE"
"I AIN'T GOT NOBODY"
"NOBODY'S SWEETHEART"
"ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON"
MR. GALLAGHER, & MR. SHEAN"

You will hear them —and more in "Atlantic City"



WHERE MISS AMERICA IS CROWNED QUEEN



BEAUTY ON THE BEACH

starring

CONSTANCE MOORE

and

BRAD TAYLOR

featuring

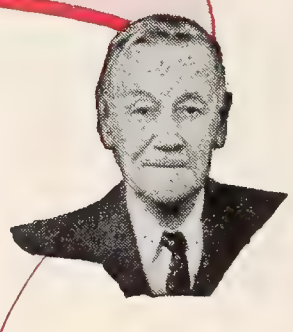
CHARLEY GRAPEWIN
JERRY COLONNA

and

ROBERT B. CASTAINE
ADELE MARA

PAUL WHITEMAN
and Orchestra

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
and his Band
with BUCK & BUBBLES
and DOROTHY DANDRIDGE



THE MILLION DOLLAR PEER OF THE YEAR

plus BELLE BAKER
JOE FRISCO
GALLAGHER & SHEAN
(Jack Kenny & Al Shean)
VAN & SCHENCK
(Gus Van & Charles Marsh)

RAY McCAREY — Director
Original Story by ARTHUR CAESAR
Screenplay by DORIS GILBERT, FRANK GILL, JR., GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



MUSIC, SWEET & HOT



ATLANTIC CITY

A REPUBLIC MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 35 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

Industry Short Of Goal in Raw Stock Cuts

30,000,000 Feet Still To Be Reduced by 11

Eleven film companies are still 30,000,000 feet short of meeting the Government's request to cut raw stock by 65,000,000 feet in the third quarter, ending Oct. 15, and this after a series of meetings between representatives of all of the companies running through last week up to the weekend, held to set up allocations to meet the reduction.

Further, it was learned that the current week will be one of the most critical raw stock supply periods in the industry's history. Current Eastman stock on hand at Rochester for shipment has been taken over by the Navy. One large processing laboratory here which is geared to process 3,000,000 feet of raw stock a week will only

(*Continued on page 3*)

Gamble Sees Big Job In 6th Loan Drive

The succession of victories registered by Allied troops will, paradoxically, be the greatest hurdle for the Treasury to surmount in the Sixth War Loan Drive, according to a statement by Ted Gamble, national U. S. War Finance director, at a preliminary meeting bringing together part of the motion picture industry's Sixth War Loan committee and representatives of the War Activities Committee at the weekend.

Stressing that the Sixth War Loan would be a major challenge to the

(*Continued on page 3*)

StudyGov'tDemands On British Industry

LONDON, Aug. 20.—Members of the British Film Producers Association met behind closed doors with Government officials at the Labor Ministry at the weekend relative to the government's demands that the British film industry surrender 10 per cent of its workers to help repair London's robot-blitzed houses. The meeting was ad-

(*Continued on page 3*)

War Centers Boom Ending

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—Exhibitors in industrial centers will experience definite diminution in business following the end of the European war, when plants now working their forces overtime to provide military and essential civilian requirements go back to the 40-hour week, it was learned at the weekend.

The elimination of overtime, Government officials estimate, will knock $12,000,000,000 out of the annual national income. This is less than 10 per cent of the estimated national income for this year, but since the whole amount will be concentrated in industrial communities its effect on theatres and other businesses in those areas may be of considerably greater proportions.

The major aim of administration officials now is to avert a concurrent drop in employment as war plants shut down preparatory to resuming civilian production. To some extent this will be accomplished by last week's War Production Board order permitting expansion of the civilian output as materials, manpower and machinery are released from war work. But the great problem lies in the great plants which cannot convert gradually but must pull out all of their war machinery and retool, as in the case of automobile manufacturers.

British Theatres Hit New Highs

London, Aug. 20.—Despite the departure of large numbers of Allied troops to the fighting fronts and the robot blitz of London and Southern England, aggregate film attendance throughout Great Britain reached an all time high during the last four weeks for this time of the year.

$52,567,989 Canada Gross

TORONTO, Aug. 20.—A film business survey by the Dominion Government, shows that Canadian theatre grosses, exclusive of amusement taxes were $52,567,989, or more than double the total of the $24,954,200 gross for 1933, and 36 per cent higher than for the boom year of 1930 yet, the use of theatres in 1943 averaged only 35 per cent of seating capacity for all performances. The highest average of any city was Halifax where nine theatres had 49 per cent of their seats filled continuously while Toronto led the big cities with 40 per cent.

Per capita spending for the last calendar year for film shows was

(*Continued on page 8*)

Way Open for 'Deal' in Decree Action

Government May Not Pursue to Actual Trial

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—The Government is not bluffing on theatre divorcement, but the way to "a satisfactory deal" is being held open once the Department of Justice petition reaches hearings in court, Francis S. Biddle, U. S. Attorney-General, stated at the weekend in answering a series of questions submitted to him by MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Biddle also indicated the Government may not pursue the issue to actual trial.

By observing "there will be no discrimination shown," he implied the Government's pursuit of individual picture selling will be inclusive enough

(*Continued on page 3*)

Decree Moves at Standstill in N.Y.

The flurry of legal activity among counsel for the five decree companies which followed upon the filing of the Department of Justice proposals for decree amendments in Federal District court here two weeks ago subsided late last week.

After a second conference last Tuesday on implications of the Department's action and possible counteractions available to the companies, no further meetings were held or have been scheduled. Indications are that

(*Continued on page 3*)

Consolidated Net Rises to $253,770

For the three months ended June 30, Consolidated Film Industries reports a net profit of $437,535 before Federal tax provision; estimated taxes amount to $183,765, leaving a net of $253,770, which compares with a net profit for the same period for 1943 of $245,704.

Per share earnings for the second quarter are equivalent to 50 cents on the 400,000 shares of preferred stock outstanding and 10 cents on the 524,973

(*Continued on page 3*)

Para. to Make 16 at 20 to 22 Millions During 1945

'Ecstasy', Not War, Is Chicago Theme

Chicago, Aug. 20.—Circuit officials here, heeding an unfavorable public reaction to war films, have instructed their advertising departments to refrain from any mention of the war in advertisements for local papers with the trend in copy writing for current films going to escapist interest.

Typical: the lead copy for M-G-M's "The White Cliffs of Dover," now playing at the United Artists Theatre which reads: "stolen moments of ecstasy."

Paramount will make 16 features between Jan. 1, 1945, and Dec. 31, 1945, at an estimated budget of $20,000,000 to $22,000,000, Henry Ginsberg, general manager of production, said on Friday at a luncheon at the 21 Club here attended by company and trade press representatives.



Henry Ginsberg

Ginsberg said that the 16 will be exclusive of two or three to be made by B. G. De Sylva and three or four from Hal Wallis. Included in the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, left for the Coast on Friday for a three weeks' visit at the studio.

•

MARK HELLINGER, Warner producer, who arrived in New York last week from the South Pacific and India where he was war correspondent for International News Service, left at the weekend for the Coast.

•

ROBERT M. WEITMAN observed his 39th birthday on Friday and the current month also marks his 10th anniversary as managing director of the Paramount Theatre.

•

PEGGY BLEAKLEY, Eastern story editor for William Cagney Productions, will return to New York today after three weeks of conferences in Hollywood with CAGNEY.

•

ALFRED FINESTONE, Paramount trade press contact, will edit the Paramount "Sales News" for the next two weeks during the vacation of SAM PALMER.

•

PHIL LAUFER of United Artists' home office publicity department will return to his desk today after a vacation.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, left for Dallas over the weekend on a week's business trip.

•

NEIL AGNEW's toolhouse and greenhouse on his Southbury, Conn., summer estate were destroyed at the weekend by fire caused by lightning.

•

HARRY BLANCHETTE, owner of theatres in Woonsocket and Central Falls, R. I., is a patient in a Boston hospital.

•

RAY MURRAY, Columbia home office publicist, and CHARLOTTE SAMPSON of Montrose, Pa., were married on Saturday.

•

JAMES WINN, district manager for United Artists in Boston, has returned from a vacation on Cape Cod.

SAG Seeks to Amend Wage Stabilization

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—The Screen Actors Guild will tell the Treasury Department its proposed amendment to the wage stabilization ruling, which would require prior Treasury approval of all employment of free lance players earning more than $1,000 weekly, "will tend to lower salary rates for all actors." The SAG will elaborate in a joint letter being prepared by the Guilds for transmission to the Treasury by producers, and is prepared to send a delegation to Washington to argue the point in person.

No date has been set for the meeting at which producers will agree upon a response to the Treasury proposals offered a month ago.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALLIED STATES last week issued a 15-page printed pamphlet presenting its analysis of the Department of Justice's recent proposals for an amended consent decree with the explanation that the work constituted Allied's "contribution to informed, intelligent thinking on a subject of vital importance to independent theatre owners."

To many trade authorities, equally well qualified to comment "on a subject of vital importance to independent theatre owners," there is a phase of the proposals which transcends in significance to the exhibitor all other phases. That is the relation of affiliated theatre divorcement to product, by which all exhibitors live.

Whether or not Allied's analysts have any misgivings whatever concerning a possible deterioration of product following upon the eventuality of affiliated theatre divorcement, the subject still would merit discussion if only for the contribution to that "informed, intelligent thinking" on the subject which Allied seeks to encourage. Yet, nowhere in the pamphlet is the subject touched upon.

•

It could be enlightening, perhaps, if Allied's analysts were to set forth reasons why no man with a theatre investment need be concerned about the maintenance of quality and continuity of product with which to keep his theatre operating after the major producers have been deprived of the theatre circuits whose playing time makes it possible for them to essay multi-million dollar productions and to experiment with dramatic properties which are inherently production gambles but frequently result in extending the industry's limited boundaries of production concept and technique, with resultant benefit to all.

•

Many of the current and recent releases might never have been attempted by Hollywood had it not been for the "cushion" of affiliated theatre playing time which lessened the risk of their production. Among them are: "The Song of Bernadette," "Wilson," "Going My Way," "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Madame Curie," "Dragon Seed," "This Is the Army," and countless others if one wishes to delve into the records.

The relation of product to affiliated circuits is, of course, an old story, well known to all who have been around the industry any length of time. Affiliated circuits developed either from the exhibitor's need of product, as in the case of First National, Loew's, and Keith-PDC (RKO) or from the producer-distributor's need of theatre outlets, as in the case of Paramount and Fox. Eliminate the affiliated theatre and the industry is transported not to a new era, but back to the era of strife and discord which immediately followed World War I and ended with establishment of affiliated circuits.

•

In other words, before affiliated circuits ever were known to the industry important production was so unsatisfactory and so uncertain that exhibitors banded together (in First National Exhibitors Circuit) to form their own producing affiliations wherewith they might operate their theatres with a theretofore unknown degree of security. The process was repeated later by Marcus Loew in the purchase of Metro and still later by J. J. Murdock and associates, who foresaw the demise of vaudeville and the need of their Keith Circuit for an assured supply of film product. Incidental to these developments, Adolph Zukor and William Fox acquired theatres to protect exhibition outlets from the new competition which was being created for producers-distributors.

Just what assurance does the independent exhibitor now have that production will not revert to the stage that once drove exhibitors to establish production affiliations, should the industry's 1916 status quo be restored by affiliated theatre divorcement?

•

Further contributing to precarious production standards is the bleak prospect of postwar foreign markets for Hollywood product. Deprived of the assurance of affiliated circuit playing time, and faced with restricted foreign revenue (which is the "cushion" of non-theatre owning as well as theatre owning producer - distributors), Hollywood production might well fall to the levels of foreign film industries, in which case it will have had done to it at home what foreign film industries and their governments could not do to it in world competition.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 20

WILLIAM CASTLE, director, will arrive in New York tomorrow to direct "If a Body," stage play for the Shuberts.

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Paul Lukas, now appearing at RKO, with Hedy Lamarr, in "Experiment Perilous," has been signed to a three-year, non-exclusive contract by that studio calling for one picture annually.

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Bert Wheeler of the team of Wheeler and Woolsey will leave here for Detroit soon to arrange for a Ford dealership in Los Angeles.

•

Monogram has named Barnett Shapiro, a member of Sam Wolf's legal staff, to the post of resident attorney with offices at the studio.

•

Universal signed Arthur Horman as producer-writer. Horman was formerly with Warner, RKO and others as a writer.

•

Pine-Thomas cancelled their announced "Homesick Angel," war aviation story, on the ground that events might make the film untimely.

•

RKO has signed Richard H. Berger to a producing contract. His first will be "The Fabulous Invalid."

Coleman, Wm. Walker Killed in Action

Lt. Charles E. Coleman, son of Lester B. Coleman, Paramount traveling auditor, listed as missing since a Flying Fortress of which he was a co-pilot was engaged in combat over Germany on March 23, has been officially reported by the War Department as killed in action. Another recent Paramount service fatality is Pvt. William J. Walker, 19, who was killed in action in Italy. He was with the Philadelphia exchange before entering the Army in Sept., 1943.

Robert Frazer, Actor, Dies in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—Robert W. Frazer, 50, veteran film actor, died here at the weekend after a long illness.

Among the many films in which he played were "Keeper of the Bees," "Out of the Ruins," and "The Little Snob" in 1929 and "Navy Secrets," "One Man's Law," "Roar of the Press," "Black Dragons" and "A Night for Crime." Frazer is survived by his widow, Mildred Bright Frazer.

Set 'Brown' for Sept. 1

International's "Casanova Brown" will be released nationally on Sept. 1, it was announced at the weekend by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, for RKO, which is releasing the film.

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Way Open for 'Deal' in Decree Action

(Continued from page 1)

o embrace every company in the field and not the five decree signatories alone.

It is the Justice Department's intention also, he declared, to give the industry ample time to make adjustments if there is any economic hardship involved in the event, of course, that the Government's aims are successfully upheld in court.

The following questions were submitted orally by MOTION PICTURE DAILY. The answers are Biddle's.

Question: "Is this a pressure move on the part of the Department of Justice designed to throw fear into the five decree signatories in an effort to persuade them to unbend to the point where they will give you the kind of document you will find acceptable?"

'No Bluff'

Answer: "Do you think it would be pressure after nine months? No. There is no bluff about this."

Q.: "Is there any intention on the part of the Department to proceed individually against component circuits of producer-distributor companies? By that is meant, will there be separate breakup moves against such circuits as Fox-West Coast here, Balaban and Katz in Chicago, M and P Theatres in Boston?"

A.: "That is in the future. I can't say at this time."

Views on Independent Circuits

Q.: "Have you any views on independent circuits—those which control or dominate in their territories but which are not affiliated in any way with the decree companies? In other words, if the Justice Department intends opening the market, is that process to be limited only to circuits identified with the five major producing-distributing companies? If so, what is your view or your answer to those who believe some completely independent circuits are also monopolistic and ought to be restrained?"

A.: "It is the purpose of the Department to correct all abuses and violations of the act. There will be no preference shown."

Q.: "The Government's petition seeks the sale of each picture singly. Do you believe this will restore competition if successfully implemented against the five decree companies alone, or is it the intention to go the whole way and seek this in connection with Columbia, Universal and UA which were in the first consent decree and then eliminated? Also, what about those never encompassed in the original decree—Monogram, PRC and Republic?"

A.: "That is in hands of the Department back there—Mr. Berge—and I can't answer it, but there will be no discrimination shown."

Q.: "Does it necessarily follow the Government will pursue its course to a point of actual trial? If not, what are the processes by which it intends seeking fulfillment of its objectives?"

A.: "It is not a trial, but just a petition before the court to modify the decree and hear the evidence. The motion picture companies will be given ample opportunity to be heard fully. If we can work out some sort of satisfactory deal in court, well and good. If there is any economic hardship involved, we will give the industry ample time to adjust itself and cause as little trouble as possible. We will probably give it a considerable length of time to make any changes that are ordered."

Biddle came here after conferences with Navy officers, FBI and the Justice Department in San Francisco on methods of seeing machinists comply with the Government's order on overtime work. He will make several political speeches here, and he said that he intends visiting the studios, but not to discuss the decree with any industry executives.

Industry 30,000,000 Feet Short of Film Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

have 500,000 feet available for processing this week.

Considerable difficulty is understood to have been encountered is getting all of the film companies to agree to a "voluntary" 20 per cent curtailment of raw stock during the current quarter, as "requested" by the War Production Board. Some 288,000,000 feet, including a 33,000,000 feet credit for processing film for the Army is available to the industry during the current quarter. Estimates by the 11 companies of stock needs, exclusive of color and newsreel footage, puts their requirements up to Oct. 15 at 315,000,000 to 320,000,000 feet. Several companies are understood to have met the 20 per cent cut by holding up some releases to the fourth quarter.

It is pointed out by industry representatives that the industry is being asked to get along on about 56 per cent of the raw stock used in 1941 and questions have arisen during the raw stock meetings as to what extent the WPB is asking curtailment of stock elsewhere. The fact that some 3,000,000 feet is understood to have been shipped to Argentina in June or July has also been made an issue as well as the shipment of raw stock to other countries.

Raw stock use by the industry in 1941 was about 425,000,000 feet for each quarter. With Army credits, the film companies are understood to have used about 382,000,000 feet during each of the first two quarters of 1944 and they must now curtail by some 92,000,000 feet to get down to the 288,000,000 feet made available for the current quarter.

Meanwhile WPB officials in Washington met last week with Army and Navy representatives for further discussion of military needs and possible curtailments, and are understood also to have worked out plans for reducing exports and cutting the consumption of raw stock by the Office of War Information.

When company representatives go to Washington they are expected to bring with them full information regarding the consumption of raw stock and plans for application of the cut, and will receive from Board officials similar information regarding Government, military and export consumption and the curtailments that have been made.

File for 48-Hr. Week Exemption in Phila.

Film companies have applied for exemption for their Philadelphia exchanges from the 48-hour work week ordered by the regional War Manpower Commission there to take effect Sept. 1.

The exchanges will continue on their present 40-hour week until their applications for exemption are acted upon by the WMC. Companies have secured exemptions from the 48-hour week in over 15 other critical labor areas where the extended work week has been ordered.

Decree Moves at Standstill in N. Y.

(Continued from page 1)

the companies will pursue a "watchful waiting" policy pending a subsequent move by the Department in the direction of bringing its petition on for hearing. In this connection it was learned that the companies do not contemplate taking any action whatever in the interim.

16 from Para. to Cost 22 Millions

(Continued from page 1)

studio's 16, however, is C. B. De Mille's "Rurales."

It was estimated previously that Paramount will release between 25 and 30 features during the 1944-45 release season. Ginsberg said that the actual number of new season's releases will depend largely upon market conditions throughout the period. He indicated, however, that the general aim of the studio will be to maintain a backlog of completed pictures, circumstances permitting. Amplifying on this subject, Ginsberg said that the end of the war may bring about conditions which will result in a quicker play-off of product than the industry has been accustomed to during the past several years.

In reply to a query, Ginsberg said that overall studio costs have increased approximately 40 per cent since 1942.

Raw Stock Supply Temporary

He expressed the opinion that the current raw stock supply emergency reflects only a temporary condition and that raw stock supply and allocations will have been improved before shooting schedules are affected to any noticeable extent.

"Producers and directors can cut their requirements to meet a temporary emergency," he said.

Ginsberg plans to remain in New York for another week conferring with home office executives on methods of effecting improved coordination between home office and studio departments. Among those at the luncheon were: Russell Holman, Robert Gillham, William Meiklejohn, Arturo de Cordova, Al Wilkie and Al Finestone.

Gamble Sees Big Job In 6th Loan Drive

(Continued from page 1)

showmanship and organizational powers of the film industry, Gamble, meeting at the Westchester home of the national chairman Harry Brandt, said:

"The nation is rapidly developing a 'we've won the war' psychosis. Even if the German conflict is terminated before the opening date of the campaign, there will still remain an urgent need for funds to finance the balance of the war, as well as the huge sums needed for sustaining our forces both here and abroad."

Gamble also declared that once again the theatre stint would be the sale of "E" Bonds ranging in maturity value from $25 to $1,000. He further stated that the goal for the entire country is now being computed against the cost of the war, and will probably be revealed to the public early in October.

Discussion also centered about Fifth War Loan results and their effect on the Treasury Department's goals. Joe Kinsky of the Fifth War Loan executive staff, delivered a report on the basis of incomplete returns from the field.

Those present, in addition to those already named, were John Hertz, Jr., his assistant publicity director Bill Dasheff, and WAC representatives S. H. Fabian, Francis S. Harmon, and Ed Schreiber.

Study Gov't Demands On British Industry

(Continued from page 1)

journed to next Friday in the hope that a way out of the impasse can be found.

The only reaction to the suggestion that volunteers be called emanated from Michael Balcon whose representative declared that 13 men might be spared from Ealing studios. Other producers are maintaining that their manpower sources are already scraped dry and it would be impossible to carry on if their labor supply is further reduced.

It is understood that Hugh Gaitskill of the Board of Trade is privately trying to influence the Labor Ministry on the ground that film production though unscheduled as an essential industry is nevertheless a vital part of the structure of the nation's morale.

Consolidated Net Rises to $253,770

(Continued from page 1)

shares of common outstanding, which compares with 50 cents on the preferred and eight cents on the common in the same quarter of 1943. The foregoing earnings may be subject to the renegotiation provisions of the National Defense Appropriation Act, J. E. McMahon, company secretary, reported at the weekend.

Finkelstein Resigns

Jack Finkelstein, New Jersey booker at the RKO New York film exchange and president of IATSE film exchange employes Local B-52 has resigned from the RKO post to enter his own accountancy practice, but will continue as head of the union.

VARIETY REPORTS:

"BIG!" —Los Angeles

"GREAT!" —Seattle



SIGNALL

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WATCH THE 2-THEATRE BROADWAY ENGAGEMENT . . . AT THE GLOBE AND THE GOTHAM!

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY — 20th CENTURY-FOX — AND NO WONDER... WITH DARRYL F. ZAN

NG A HIT!

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"TOP MONEY!" —Denver

"SOLID!" —St. Louis

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"BIG!" —Kansas City

WING AND A PRAYER



(THE STORY OF CARRIER X)



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RICHARD JAECKEL • CHARLES BICKFORD • SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE

and Kevin O'Shea • Henry Morgan • Richard Crane • Glenn Langan • Renny McEvoy • Robert Bailey • Reed Hadley

George Mathews • B. S. Pully • Dave Willock • Murray Alper

Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY • Produced by WILLIAM A. BACHER and WALTER MOROSCO

Story and Screen Play by Jerome Cady

"WILSON"—"THE SONG OF BERNADETTE"—"HOME IN INDIANA" AND ITS OTHER CURRENT HITS ALL BIG!

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(Full-color 24 sheet)

KAN

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COLUMBIA'S

SAS CITY KITTY



KEEP SELLING THOSE WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

Coast Filming In New Spurt, Rising to 55

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20. — Production was on the rise last week as work started on nine features, and only four others were completed. Total number in work was 55, compared with 50 during the preceding week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Phantom Outlaws."
Started: "Tonight We Dance," with Fred Brady, Jeff Donnell, William Wright and Ann Savage.
Shooting: "Hello, Mom," "Tonight and Every Night," "A Woman's Privilege," "Dormant Account" (Darmour).

M-G-M

Started: "Thrill of Romance," with Esther Williams, Van Johnson, Carleton Young.
Shooting: "Gentle Annie," "Autumn Fever," "The Clock," "Dr. Red Adams," "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie," "Ziegfeld Follies."

Monogram

Finished: "Army Wives."
Shooting: "The Case of the Missing Medico," "Murder in the Family," "They Shall Have Faith."

Paramount

Started: "Dangerous Passage" (Pine-Thomas) with Robert Lowery.
Shooting: "Kitty," "Out of This World."

PRC

Finished: "Twin Guns."
Started: "Hollywood and Vine," with Jim Ellison; "Song of Six Guns," with Tex Ritter, Dave O'Brien, Marjorie Clemens, Wanda McKay, June Clyde, Ralph Morgan, Franklin Pangborn, Emmett Lynn.
Shooting: "Phantoms of Wild Valley," "The Town Went Wild."

RKO Radio

Started: "China Sky," with Randolph Scott, Ruth Warrick, Ellen Drew, Carol Thurston, Benson Fong.
Shooting: "Two O'clock Courage," "Pan-Americana," "Isle of the Dead," "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure," (International) "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Started: "Next Comes Love" (Sydney Williams), with Arthur Lake, Dale Evans, Lionel Stander.
Shooting: "Lake Placid Serenade," "Faces in the Fog," "Flame of Barbary Coast."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Nob Hill," "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," "Winged Victory."

United Artists

Started: "High Among the Stars" (Charles R. Rogers) with Constance Moore, Ralph Bellamy, Jane Powell, Hattie McDaniel and Arthur Treacher.
Shooting: "The Great John L" (Crosby); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard); "Brewster's Millions" (Small).

Universal

Finished: "Mike Goes to a Party."
Started: "Swingaroo Sweethearts," with Kirby Grant, Lois Collier, Judy Clark, Edward Norris.
Shooting: "Arsene Lupin," "Musical Roundup," "Queen of the Nile," "Can't Help Singing."

Warner

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Roughly Speaking," "Objective Burma," "Hollywood Canteen."

Review

"The Impatient Years"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Aug. 20

STARRING Jean Arthur at the peak of her talent and supported by players born for the roles they play, this Irving Cummings production comes to the screen as the first intelligently conceived and executed treatment of the subject of war marriages. With no sacrificing of Miss Arthur's gift for comedy, which gives the film its sparkle, the script by Virginia Van Upp, who functioned also as associate producer, probes the embarkation wedding, the overnight honeymoon and the war-ordered separation in a manner comprehensible to people of all ages and informative without being for a moment dull.

The appeal of the picture is as broad as the world, and producer-director Cummings' handling of it is sound of mind and wholesome as mankind's heart.

To Miss Arthur's lead, Lee Bowman furnishes a faultless accompaniment, while Charley Grapewin, Grant Mitchell, Jane Darnell and the others provide flawless characterizations rounding out an impressive ensemble performance.

Miss Arthur and Bowman portray wife and soldier separated 18 months by the war after three days of courtship and one of marriage. She has borne a baby and scheduled her life to meet its needs when he arrives home on furlough. Practically strangers, they seek a divorce at once, but the Judge declines to grant it until they have relived the four days of their wooing and wedding. In so doing they encounter complications which make for comedy of hilarious proportions. Ultimately their common interest in their baby dissolves their personal problems and they reunite.

For preserving sincerity and logic in the handling of the serious side of an important topic, while rearing upon this basis a structure of comedy which scores on its own merits without cheapening the subject, all parties to the production rate a special kind of applause from the trade. The picture will get it from the public.

Running time, 90 minutes. Release Sept. 7. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

$52,567,989 Canada Gross

(Continued from page 1)

$5.61, compared with $2.70 for each person in Canada in 1936.

The proportion of single feature programs increased slightly to 39.4 per cent compared with the preceding year and the report shows that 32 per cent of all theatres played single bills only. During the year, 1,269 theatres averaged 138 feature bookings and 686 different features were booked of which 557 were from the U. S., 97 from England and 32 from Russia and elsewhere.

In 1943, 561 theatres or 44 per cent of the total were individually owned, compared with 659 independent theatres in 1930 which was 72 per cent of the number operating that year.

Last year, amusement taxes were $13,381,361 with patrons totalling 205,826,197, the aggregate gross being 13 per cent higher than 1942 for a new alltime record.

$320,000 for 'Arms' At Woods, Chicago

CHICAGO, Aug. 20.—"Up In Arms" is the top grosser of any RKO release in this territory in the history of the company, branch manager Sam Gorelick reports. Now in its 17th week at the Woods, it has already grossed more than $320,000. Last RKO box office "champ" here was "Kitty Foyle."

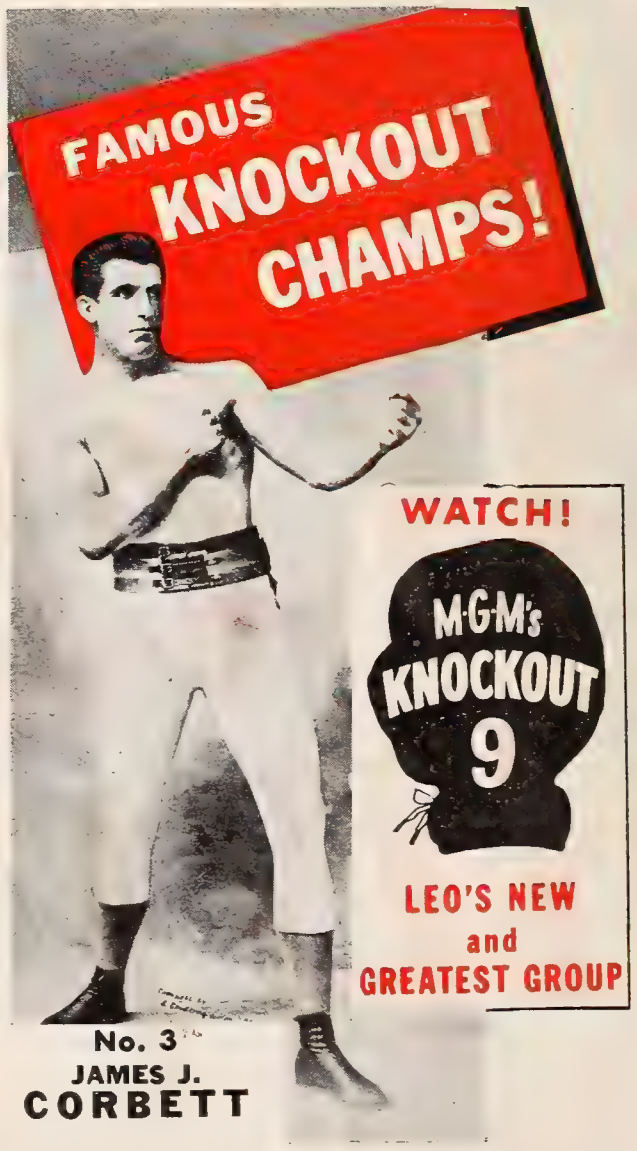
WB Office Workers Receive Wage Boost

Eligible Warner Bros. home office 'white collar' workers received a six per cent wage increase at the weekend under a contract with Motion Picture Office Employes Local 23169, AFL.

The increase was given to an estimated 500 of the company's 600 office workers who have been with the company one year or more who are eligible for union membership. The wage increase was the final one under the original two-year contract between the company and the union which expired on Aug. 10 and has been extended until Sept. 9 while negotiations on a new contract are in progress.

WB 'Boats' Premiere

BAYONNE, N. J., Aug. 20.—Warners "Devil Boats," two-reel color short produced in cooperation with the Navy Department, will have its world premiere here at the De Witt Theatre Tuesday night, coincident with the presentation of a fourth star for the Army-Navy 'E' flag at Elco, which builds the PT boats on which the film is based.



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 36 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1944 TEN CENTS

FOR THE RECORD

First Filing For Exchange Worker Raises

3,000 Are Involved in Most Key Branches

Now on file with the War Labor Board at Albany is the first in a series of applications which will be filed within the next two weeks with regional War Labor Boards having jurisdiction in the 31 cities in which film exchange centers are located, seeking WLB authorization for a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales agreed upon by the film companies and the IATSE to cover some 3,000 exchange office workers.

The applications are to be filed by IATSE locals in all exchange centers except Los Angeles where the workers are represented by an AFL local but not by an IATSE local. Other film exchange office workers not included are those in the New York exchanges of M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Colum-

(*Continued on page 7*)

More Workers Seek Raises

IATSE film exchange service employes' locals in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Denver and Los Angeles will file with the regional War Labor Boards in their areas for approval of a 10 per cent wage increase for exchange film inspectors, poster clerks and shippers—which the companies are willing to grant—joining IATSE locals in 11 other exchange centers which have already filed or are preparing to file.

The Cincinnati, St. Louis, Denver

(*Continued on page 7*)

WMC Reiterates: No Manpower Relief

CHICAGO, Aug. 21.—Industries not in an essential classification located in critical help-shortage cities (Chicago is one of them) cannot expect any help for some time, it was learned from the War Manpower Commission which just closed a three-day executive session at the Stevens Hotel here. Regional directors of the WMC from all over the country attended to discuss

(*Continued on page 8*)

Hollywood Answers SOS for War Work

Hollywood, Aug. 21.—In an effort to stem war job defections, prints of four special film bulletins, made by Paramount and Warners, are being shipped today to all West Coast theatres. Rush production was launched on appeal of James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization, to Stanton Griffis, OWI film bureau head, who called upon John C. Flinn, Hollywood WAC coordinator.

Resulting bulletins carry messages urging war workers to remain at their jobs.

New York Grosses In Upswing After Long Heat Wave

The weekend break in the heat wave after eight successive days of about 90 degree highs is helping holdover films at downtown New York first-run theatres to generally better grosses. Abbott and Costello's "In Society,"

(*Continued on page 10*)

William Fox Seeks Coast Studio for Production Start

Initial moves looking to William Fox's official resumption of industry activity and his start in production by the first of the year will be made by the former head of Fox Film Corp. during a current visit of three weeks to a month in Hollywood, it was announced by Fox's New York office yesterday.

Fox left for the Coast by train on Sunday. While in Hollywood he will endeavor to negotiate a studio deal and sign up producers, directors and talent for productions which he hopes to get into work immediately after Jan. 1, 1945, it was stated.

Indications are that Fox will confine his current activities to the leasing of studio space. He told MOTION PICTURE DAILY recently that his earlier plans for construction of a modern studio and home office building on the

(*Continued on page 8*)

Mayor, Circuits Meet Today on Cut Prices

New York's Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, his legal advisors and representatives of New York affiliated and independent circuits will meet at City

(*Continued on page 8*)

Defer U. S. Navy Request For Fifty Old Releases

Film company sales heads are understood to be reluctant to comply with a request made by U. S. Navy officials for over 50 "over-age" films for exhibition aboard Navy vessels.

Principal reason for this reluctance is understood to be the feeling that exhibition of the films will bring a recurrence of criticism by Navy personnel against the vintage of the pictures similar to that which the industry received when "over-age" films were exhibited by the Army overseas in the early months of the war, under auspices of the Army Overseas Motion Picture Service.

Another reason advanced by some sales heads is the present critical raw film stock situation. The Navy rents 35mm prints from the industry paying a certain fee per foot on the amount of film ordered. Although the industry receives raw stock credit for the

(*Continued on page 8*)

Emergency Measures For 'Peace Day'

Cleveland, Aug. 21.—Theatre owners are warned to prepare for 'Peace Day.' In a bulletin to owners, George W. Erdmann, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, proposes the following suggestions: Each exhibitor to man his theatre door to keep a sharp watch on the box office; remove lobby furniture; protect candy counters and automatic candy and popcorn machines; see that lighting systems and exit doors are in perfect working condition; take measures to stop any aisle parades in the theatre; arrange a signal system with the operator to take care of emergencies.

Independents' Films Boom In Mid-West

Benefit by Less Major Product, Extended Runs

By SAM HONIGBERG

CHICAGO, Aug. 21.—Independent distributors are enjoying their best market to date in the Midwest territory, a check-up among exchanges and exhibitors reveals. The combination of fewer major company releases compared to pre-Pearl Harbor seasons, the continuation of the double feature policy in most houses, and the extended showings of first runs in Loop first-runs has given the independent producer a new circulation peak for his product.

Reports from PRC, Monogram and all other independent exchanges and the re-issue firms of World Wide Films and Film Classics, indicate the best business in their histories, with a

(*Continued on page 8*)

Raw Stock Cut Up in Air

The 11 film companies will require 120,000,000 feet of raw film from now until the end of the current quarter to meet estimates on prints for scheduled releases and only 75,000,000 feet are available to meet War Production Board requests to get along on 20 per cent less raw stock until Sept. 30, it was learned here yesterday following a meeting of company representatives. This does not include raw stock used by the newsreels or for color

(*Continued on page 7*)

Reno Ballroom for Goldwyn's 1st Run

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Claiming inability to make a percentage deal acceptable to him with the T and D Circuit, operating five Reno theatres, Samuel Goldwyn will open "Up In Arms" in Tony Percepti's El Patio Ballroom in that city, tomorrow evening in defiance of the McNeil-Naify interests of San Francisco which control the theatres.

T and D ballroom seats 400, and

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, returned to the home office yesterday after a month's absence visiting the company's Hollywood studios and branches in Chicago, San Franciso, and Denver.

•

BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager for Warner Bros., stopped at Chicago yesterday, on his way back to New York from the Coast, and will visit St. Louis and Dallas before returning here.

•

LEON BENSON, former trailer department executive at Paramount's Hollywood studio, and previously RKO Cincinnati publicist, has been promoted to a major with U. S. Army Intelligence, England.

•

JACK SICHELMAN, aide to TOM CONNORS, vice-president in charge of sales of 20th Century-Fox, has left for Lake George to spend the next two weeks recuperating from illness.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, head of Warners' talent bureau in New York, will leave tomorrow on a scouting tour of Boston, Cambridge and other New England points.

•

JOHN W. SCHWALM, son of JOHN A. SCHWALM, manager of the Northio Rialto, Hamilton, O., has been promoted to captain with Army Engineers in Burma.

•

JOSEPH QUITTNER, co-owner of the Q. and P. Circuit in Connecticut, and his family, have returned to New York from a vacation at Lake Spafford, N. H.

•

LEWELLYN MILLER, Western editor of Ideal Publishing Corp.'s fan magazines, is here from Hollywood for a month.

•

LT. LEONARD ORMANER, formerly of the Warner theatre department in New York has been promoted to the rank of first lieutenant.

•

LOU COHEN, manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, and MRS. COHEN, are vacationing in White Mountains, New Hampshire.

•

ROLAND REED, producer, is in New York from the Coast. He will visit Chicago in a week and return here before leaving for Hollywood.

•

WALLY WALLENS, booker for the Pouzzner circuit, Boston, has returned from a vacation at Ogunquit, Maine.

•

DON PRINCE, publicity director for RKO in Boston, is spending his vacation in South Carolina.

•

I. HARRY ROGOVIN, Columbia branch manager in Boston, has returned to his post following a recent illness.

•

E. M. LOEW, New England circuit owner, is visiting Hartford from Boston.

Propose $2,000,000 Cut in Ohio Tax

COLUMBUS, Aug. 21.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio will shortly call a special board meeting to discuss the proposal made to Gov. John W. Bricker by State Tax Commissioner William S. Evatt to repeal the current Ohio admission and amusement tax, which Evatt indicates is yielding more than $2,000,000 annually.

The repeal will leave local municipalities, particularly in the larger cities, free to levy their own admission and amusement taxes should addional revenue be required, Evatt stated.

"We have today substantially higher admissions for downtown theatres running first run pictures than prevails in outlying neighborhood theatres. The retention of either a three per cent, or even the imposition of a five per cent admission or amusement tax in any of our metropolitan cities, with no such tax on such admissions outside of the city limits, would have little or no effect upon revenues of the downtown places of amusement and probably have little upon those in the outlying districts within the municipal limits. A three per cent tax, yielding now more than $2,000,000 annually would give our larger cities more money than increasing the local government fund by approximately $3,000,000. Should a municipality see fit to enact a five per cent amusement tax, I doubt if it would have much effect on the amusement business," the proposal concludes.

The current three per cent state excise tax levied on grosses became effective Jan. 1, 1935.

Meet Sept. 15 on N.Y. Building Code

Exhibition representatives in New York State will serve on an advisory committee which will aid state industrial commissioner Edward Corsi, head of the State Labor Department, modernize the state's building code as it applies to places of assembly, including theatres. The committee will meet with labor department officials headed by deputy commissioner Abraham H. Goodman in the State Office Building here Sept. 15 to organize and prepare an agenda.

Commissioner Corsi not only seeks to revise and modernize the "antiquated" state standard building code but he seeks to extend his department's jurisdiction in the enforcement of safeguards.

Among those from the industry who will serve on the advisory committee are Martin J. Tracey, Century Circuit; Henry Anderson, Paramount; Larry Moskowitz, Loew's, and Louis Lazar of the Schine Circuit.

Commissioner Corsi declared here that "Necessity for revision of the code has concerned us for a long time, and it is our expectation that the committee will not only help us to bring it up to date, but, will recommend legislation to give the labor department necessary wider jurisdiction."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 21

THE Screen Office Employees Guild, representing 2,500 studio employees, has broken off studio negotiations on the producers' refusal to grant "equitable sick-leave." SOEG has wired U. S. Conciliation Service asking intervention.

•

George D. Burrows, Monogram vice-president and treasurer, has returned to his office at production headquarters here after a trip which covered the recent convention in Chicago and the New York office of the company.

•

Paramount has extended its option on John Farrow, director, for another year. The studio also announced that one of B. G. De Sylva's unit features will star Bing Crosby. Story material for the production is now under consideration.

•

Galston and Sutton, operators in Hawaii, purchased the Elite theatre in Beverly Hills, seating 865. It will show first runs day-and-date with Hawaii.

•

Lou Greenspan has left here for New York and Washington to confer with officials of the Office of Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

•

RKO has purchased the comedy novel, "D-Day in Las Vegas," from authors Herbert Clyde Lewis and M. F. Kohn.

•

Don Gilman, western vice president of the Blue Network, leaves the radio industry to join the California Oil and Gas Ass'n., Sept. 1.

•

George Brown, studio publicity director at Paramount, has postponed his trip to New York from September to November.

•

Mark Hellinger has returned to the Warner lot following an assignment overseas as war correspondent. He has not yet been assigned to production.

•

Elmer Balaban, head of the H. & E. Circuit of Chicago and Detroit, is a visitor here.

U.A. Managers Return

Having completed home office conferences, visiting United Artists Latin-American maanagers are returning to their respective territories.

Victor Schochet, Peru, and Joe Goltz, Mexico, have already left; Sam Seidelman, Argentina; Enrique Baez, Brazil; Henry Weiner, Cuba; Jorge Suarez, Chile, and Guy C. Smith, Canal Zone, will leave this week.

Williams at U.A.

Rex Williams, formerly with Loew's in St. Louis, assumed his new duties as United Artists exploitation director at the home office here yesterday.

Eyssell Honors Cooper

Gary Cooper will be the guest of G. S. Eyssell at a cocktail party and reception which the president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall will give for the Hollywood star tomorrow in the theatre's studio. Cooper is the star of "Casanova Brown," International Picture's comedy, which will follow "Dragon Seed" at the Music Hall.

Ross Low on Mis-outs

Checking miss-outs by Ross Federal field forces during June, July and to date in August, were reduced to less than one-half of one per cent, lowest since the start of the war, the company reported here yesterday.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
EXTRA! BRITISH IMPERIALISM - 1944
THE NEW MARCH OF TIME

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
CARY GRANT
Janet Blair
'ONCE UPON A TIME'
IN PERSON
HENRY JEROME and ORCH.
PAUL WINCHELL
JANE PICKENS

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

8TH WEEK
SAMUEL GOLDWYN PRESENTS
"DEAD END"
A FILM CLASSIC RELEASE
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'WAY AT 47ST

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whose hearts beat
in furlough time...

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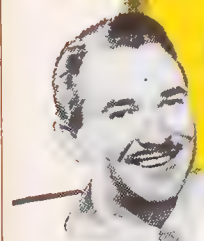
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BOWMAN

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Irving Cummings'

The IMPATIENT YEARS





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With this picture, an exciting new star joins your favorite leading men. Lee Bowman is a name you're going to look for . . . a star you'll go for!

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Original Screen Play by VIRGINIA VAN UPP
Associate Producer
Produced and Directed by IRVING CUMMINGS

COLUMBIA PICTURES

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS!
FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Raw Stock Cut Up in Air

(Continued from page 1)

prints. The industry is being asked to get along on 255,000,000 feet of raw stock during the present quarter plus a 33,000,000 feet stock credit accruing from print processing for the Army.

It was also learned that the critical shortage of raw stock available for processing is expected to continue until the end of the current quarter on Sept. 30. All film laboratories are understood to be hit by the shortage.

Walter Cockell of Paramount, who has been acting as chairman of the group of company representatives who have been seeking to reduce raw stock consumption by the industry without affecting company operations, is understood to have communicated with WPB officials in Washington following yesterday's meeting. Several plans for meeting the proposed WPB 20 per cent cut during the quarter have been advanced but none of the plans have been agreed upon by the companies. No further meetings are planned immediately but company representatives are subject to call for additional discussions.

WPB Plans to 'Tailor' Raw Stock Allotments

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Raw stock allocations for the balance of the current quarter will be announced to the companies when their top officials meet here with representatives of the War Production Board, probably early next week.

There will be no horizontal cut, it was indicated today by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, but a tailoring of the quotas to fit the needs of individual companies, much as gasoline "B" allocations are "tailored" to fit the needs of the individual applicant.

Burrows explained that the delay in holding the meeting, originally projected several weeks ago, and in deciding how the cut should be applied has been due to the difficulties encountered in securing up-to-the-minute information on operations during the present quarter, showing which companies have been using raw stock and in what quantity as well as to ascertain whether any have printed in advance and so can stand a heavier cut to allow more film for others in a less fortunate position.

The whole problem, Burrows said, is being worked out on a practical basis, with a view to keeping all companies rolling, rather than to make a flat cut, which might result in interruption of operations by some, while others would have relatively ample supplies. To this end, he said, WPB is calling upon the industry committee for cooperation and advice, and when the meeting is held the whole situation will be reviewed in the light of the information prepared by the companies, and the actual quotas will be decided upon.

Complaint Withdrawn

Falls Theatre, Sheboygan Falls, Wis., has withdrawn its clearance complaint entered in the Milwaukee tribunal against the five consenting companies, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Review

"Kismet"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Aug. 21

BREATH-taking beauty is the primary distinction of this opulent and eye-arresting attraction. The formidable resources of the M-G-M studio met a test when "Kismet" (meaning fate) came along, and the craftsmen won out. The primary cause for regret resides in the inability of emotional and dramatic content to travel side by side and as rapidly with the sheer enchantment of photography, costuming and decor. The consequence resembles a perfectly beautiful and entrancing rainbow which enthralls and enraptures when it first unfolds and thereafter merely turns out to be a continuation of the same thing.

"Kismet" is a commercial toughie to diagnose. It is fashioned in the channel successfully dredged by Universal with "Arabian Nights", "Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves" and others in the Maria Montez series, and by Alexander Korda with "Jungle Book" only on a considerably broader and richer canvas. The exhibitor's experience with the predecessors suggests the answer.

Based on the well-known play by Edward Knoblock, "Kismet" is a fantasy of old Bagdad. It tells in necessarily flowery and overflowing language, geared to poetical flourishes, of Hafiz, who is king of beggars by day and a self-created prince of the realm by night. He is a rascal for his full height, but a charming one at that. He is a thief, a maker of magic, a fakir and an unmitigated liar. In affairs of the heart he knows no boundaries. But he is also his daughter's father, deeply in love with her, committed to his self-exacted promise he will make her the queen of the kingdom. In fact, he does through a series of pleasant enough and impossible devices which require no rationalizing since this is a fantasy. And fantasy gives a producer all the dramatic license he can employ.

Since a man can love a queen, so can a beggar. Ronald Colman as Hafiz does, the queen being Marlene Dietrich who is bedecked and bejeweled in the kind of costumes which only a fantasy could allow, or explain. Since a man can try to make his daughter queen, Colman does that, too, by plot with Grand Vizier Edward Arnold to do away with Caliph James Craig. Colman almost succeeds before learning the presumed gardener's son is his daughter's lover and caliph.

In a frenzy of amends, Hafiz does a Fairbanks to the bridal tower, bests the Nubian slaves and their curved scimitars, kills Arnold in the blue-watered pool and opens the road to a happy finish. For his reward, he is elevated to the princedom he has been falsifying, but is banished from Bagdad. Miss Dietrich, however, goes as his fellow traveler, suggesting the journeyings of the future won't be exactly barren.

Story weight is wisp-like. Spread over 103 minutes, it becomes like a wisp. This makes it required to fill in with extensive dialogue which progresses little action although it consumes time. It also induces a fuller play for trumpet calls, panoply, elaborated dances and other detail, all of it unfolded leisurely and unhurriedly by William Dieterle in his direction.

The cast is strong. Colman, in an hitherto untried type of role, imparts to Hafiz the measure of believability a fantasy allows, or demands. Miss Dietrich does a dance which falls into no category known to this reviewer; it's exotic, if not definable, but for the rest the call placed upon her is neither exacting nor extreme. Craig, as the caliph, is practically submerged in a series of fantasy-like costumes. Arnold and Harry Davenport fare no more fortunately in this direction and neither does Colman. Joy Ann Page, the daughter, is charming in her quiet way and very appealing in her dark attractiveness.

Charles Rosher, for his camera work, Cedric Gibbons and Daniel B. Cathcart, for their art direction, Edwin B. Willis and Richard Pefferle, for their set decorations, Irene, for her costume supervision, Karinska, for the actual costumes and Herbert Stothart, for his musical score are the real heroes of "Kismet". Everett Riskin produced.

Running time 103 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 9.

RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Frank Upton Wounded

DETROIT, Aug. 21 — Frank Upton, former manager of the Michigan Theatre, has been reported wounded at Bougainville while serving with the Second Marine Division as a flamethrower, it was disclosed here by Alice Gorham of United Detroit Theatres. Upton is now at a hospital in New Guinea.

USO Borrows Ed. Sobol

Edward Sobol, NBC television director, will work with USO Camp Shows in coordinating and supervising 16 new productions to be sent overseas to the Armed Forces. C. L. Menser, vice president in charge of NBC programs here, stated that Sobol's assignments with the USO will terminate about Oct. 1.

First Filing For Exchange Worker Raises

(Continued from page 1)

bia and United Artists who are represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO. SOPEG is negotiating a job classification plan for these employes with the companies involved.

The plan sets up some 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for the film exchange office workers. The classifications range from general file clerks to typists with minimums and maximums of $23 to $33 a week to a $65 to $85 a week for head bookers in the large exchange centers and a slightly lower range for other places. Workers who are already receiving the minimums set or who would not receive a full 10 per cent increase in being brought up to the minimums will receive a flat 10 per cent increase if the WLB approves the plan. All benefits are retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943.

Pat Scollard, Paramount exchange operations head, is chairman of the committee which worked with IATSE officials here headed by Joseph D. Basson and David Halper, IATSE attorney, in working out the job classification plan. Companies whose film exchanges are involved are: Paramount, Warner Bros., RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's Inc., Columbia, Universal and United Artists.

More Workers Seek Raises in Salaries

(Continued from page 1)

and Los Angeles locals have forwarded the required necessary forms to the respective exchange operations heads in New York for approval since the companies are joining with the unions in the filing.

As previously reported, service employes' locals in Boston, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Detroit, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New Haven, Dallas, Seattle and Chicago, have filed or are filing. A ruling is awaited from the War Labor Board in Washington on an appeal taken on behalf of employes of Loew's Washington exchange from a rejection of the 10 per cent increase by the RWLB in Philadelphia as well as the Wage Stabilization Director's office.

Zukor Examination Continuing Daily

Pre-trial examination of Adolph Zukor, chairman of the Paramount board of directors, is continuing daily in the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies. Barney Balaban, president, is to testify Aug. 28.

Many other executives are scheduled to be examined, including Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, who has been examined before. Representatives of Hays, Podell and Schulman, the plaintiff's attorneys, expect to bring the case to trial before Jan. 1.

Defer U.S. Navy Request for Older Features

(Continued from page 1)

film processed for the Navy, it is felt that any diversion of raw stock at the present time would further narrow the present raw stock supply.

The Navy originally made a request for 21 prints each of 50 over-age films through the War Activities Committee, which turned the request over to the various companies. Subsequently, individual companies received direct request from the Navy for specific films with the total possibly running much higher than the original 50 first requested.

Company spokesmen here yesterday said they have readily honored all requests for new films made by the Navy and the current print order on pictures selected now is about 23 prints per film. One of the principal reasons for the Navy's need of more films, it is understood, is that in supplying prints to ships which operate in task forces, the prints are tied up for a much longer period than previously, and difficulties are encountered in routing films from one ship to another.

George J. Schaefer, national chairman of the War Activities Committee is presently in Hawaii to study the distribution of 35mm and 16mm films at the request of the Navy.

Mayor, Circuits Meet Today on Cut Prices

(Continued from page 1)

Hall today to discuss a proposal made by the mayor to exhibitors that existing lower children's admission rates be extended from the present age limit of 12 years to permit children up to 16 to enter at the lower cut price instead of paying adult admissions.

Circuit executives are understood to have pointed out to the mayor that they would be compelled to pay the Government the full adult ticket tax on the reduced prices for those between 12 and 16, which they are reluctant to do.

Fox to Coast for Production Start

(Continued from page 1)

Coast, as well as his plans for construction of modern film exchange buildings in key cities throughout the country would be held in abeyance until war conditions and the availability of materials and manpower permit him to proceed with such projects.

Fox holds an option on a large site for his proposed West Coast studio and office building at an as yet undisclosed location near Hollywood.

Supply Firm Chartered

NASHVILLE, Aug. 21.—Capitol City Supply Co., Inc., Memphis equipment and supply company, has secured a charter of incorporation from the state department here with Annie M. Stout, Paul A. King and John W. Apperson listed as incorporators.

Reno Ballroom for Goldwyn's 1st Run

(Continued from page 1)

Goldwyn will give the opening night's receipts to the Red Cross. Thereafter he proposes to charge admissions prevailing generally at the city's first runs.

Goldwyn stated prior to his departure there, his pictures have not played Reno for years because the terms offered have been unacceptable, and he intends following "Up In Arms" with "They Got Me Covered," "Pride of the Yankees" and others.

No conflict with RKO as distributor is seen in view of the reputed codicil in Goldwyn's contract permitting him to proceed on his own in the event deals developed by RKO sales force are found unsatisfactory.

Indicating that other independent producers are banded together and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers are interested is the fact that John C. Flinn, executive secretary, is enroute to Reno with the Goldwyn party which includes Mary Pickford.

Goldwyn Hits Monopolies; Cites GI Bill of Rights

RENO, Aug. 21.—Samuel Goldwyn, Mrs. Goldwyn and Mary Pickford arrived in Reno today from Hollywood to attend the exhibition tomorrow, Tuesday evening, of Goldwyn's technicolor production, "Up in Arms," which is being exhibited in the El Patio Dance Hall, converted into a theatre for special showing.

Goldwyn refused the playing terms of the theatre circuit which controls the five theatres in Reno, and as a protest move against circuit monopoly control of situations arranged for the dance hall exhibition. The controversey which has been waged over the entry of Goldwyn as an exhibitor into the town developed wide interest in the opening tomorrow.

Goldwyn issued the following statement, "Because of monopolies existing through the country, the boys when they return from the war are practically prohibited from entering into the exhibition of motion pictures. They cannot build or acquire theatres in opposition to circuits or pooled circulations without the consent of existing owners or operators as no product of consequence would be available to them. Tentatively Congress passed the GI bill of rights but no mention was made of the right to a free and open market to them for the exhibition of motion pictures."

Screen 'Romance' In Capital Today

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—More than 200 leaders of the Government, military services, the film industry and press will attend a screening of M-G-M's "An American Romance," with Brian Donlevy, at the Hotel Statler here tomorrow. Donlevy will be guest of honor and a buffet luncheon will follow.

Among those expected are: Major Gen. Norman T. Kirk, Major Gen. and Mrs. Alexander Surles, Col. and Mrs. William J. Keighley, Col. Oveta Hobby, Mr. and Mrs. Paul McNutt, A. E. Lichtman, William Crockett and others.

Independents' Films Boom In Mid-West

(Continued from page 1)

record number of customers for each picture. Not only is the average independent exhibitor using more product from the smaller companies, but such circuits as Balaban and Katz, Warner Brothers, Essaness Theatres and the Indiana-Illinois Theatres, are double-billing more independent films and re-issues than ever before.

And Michael Siegal, general manager of B. P. R. Theatres, neighborhood circuit, points out that this trend will continue on a comparative basis even after the war, for "the exhibitor, forced to play almost anything available, discovers that he has missed many good independent pictures, simply because he refused to play them. Exhibitors have discovered that many worthwhile pictures are produced by the smaller companies. Their exhibition will encourage the small-budget producer to do even better work."

PRC, Monogram and Film Classics have also had an increase in first-run dates in the Loop this season, the theatre outlets being the B and K Apollo, Oriental, RKO Grand and the Woods.

WMC Reiterates: No Manpower Relief

(Continued from page 1)

the man-power threat to war production.

Paul V. McNutt, WMC director, stated that "the crisis of victory has affected general war production and seriously endangered the production of the material of ultimate decision: heavy artillery, heavy trucks, heavy munitions, heavy tanks." Labor and the community must pull together in co-operative efforts, he said, to mobilize manpower for the greatest possible production.

The local WMC office has informed Sam Gorelick, local RKO exchange manager, that he cannot hire a salesman before his predecessor is discharged. Gorelick is seeking to make a change, but due to an office problem he wanted to keep both men for a time.

Andrews, Goldberg Republic Managers

MEMPHIS, Aug. 21.—Lew Andrews has been named branch manager for Republic here, succeeding Norman J. Colquhoun who has been transferred to Dallas. Andrews, with Republic 17 months, was formerly with Malco Theatres as booker and office manager for 14 years.

Local Variety honored Colquhoun at a luncheon Saturday. Herb Cohn of Malco was master of ceremonies.

CHICAGO, Aug. 21.—Lou Goldberg, salesman at the Republic exchange here, has been named local sales manager by William Baker, district head.

Crystal Pictures Moves

Crystal Pictures has moved quarters from 729 Seventh Ave. to the Palace Theatre Building.

Hertz Preparing 6th Loan Plans

Plans for special projects in publicizing the Sixth War Loan Drive of the industry are being formulated and will be submitted to the WAC, and the national industry committee for approval, John W. Hertz, Jr., national publicity chairman and chairman of the board of Buchanan and Company, advertising company, said here yesterday.



John W. Hertz, Jr.

Hertz declared that in addition to his assistant, William Dasheff, he will name others to aid in the drive, including industry publicists. A weekend meeting of Ted Gamble, national U. S. War Finance director, Harry Brandt, Joe Kinsky, S. H. Fabian, Francis S. Harmon, Ed Schreiber, Hertz and Dasheff discussed objectives of the Sixth Loan.

(Through an error, *Motion Picture Daily* on Friday, Aug. 18, identified a picture of John D. Hertz, Sr., as one of John Hertz, Jr. The latter is pictured in the accompanying photograph.)

Graetz Opens Own Exchange Here

AFE Corp., foreign film importer, headed by Paul Graetz, has opened a sales office here, in charge of Morris Safier and Wiliam Shelton.

In addition to representing foreign films, among them, Ealing Studios, Ltd., of London, AFE has foreign reissue rights to four Selznick productions: "Intermezzo," "Garden of Allah," "Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." Rights to five new Ealing pictures have been acquired, first of which is "48 Hours," now showing, to be followed by Michael Balcon's "Nine Men," opening here next month.

Ruggles Delayed in London Departure

LONDON, Aug. 21.—Wesley Ruggles is understood to be set to return to the United States but trouble over Mrs. Ruggles' departure permit, which, it is anticipated may be issued in a week, is delaying him.

Ruggles blandly denies his intention to return to London but it is understood authoritatively that arrangements still stand for him to direct the first J. Arthur Rank-20th Century-Fox picture for which a team of technicians is now in the process of being recruited.

Legion Classifies Four New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "In Society," Universal; A-2, "Greenwich Village," 20th Century-Fox; "Kismet," M-G-M; and "Soul of a Monster," Columbia.

COPPER still critical!



COPPER is still on the critical shortage list of essential war materials. It was never more necessary that every last possible ounce of it be saved.

The copper that drops from your Victory and "Orotip" Carbons to the bottom of your lamp housings, and that which you strip from stubs, quickly finds its way back into essential products of war when you turn it in to your distributor or local salvage headquarters.

Your cooperation has been most effective. Your Government urges you to keep it up! And for further saving of copper . . . and for efficient use of carbons . . . a bulletin describing completely the operation of Victory High Intensity Carbons . . . "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip" . . . has been in general distribution. If you have not received your copy, write today. National Carbon Company, Inc., Cleveland 1, Ohio, Dept. 9-H.

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★ BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS ★

New York Grosses In Upswing After Long Heat Wave

(*Continued from page 1*)

which opened last Wednesday is headed for a new Criterion house record with over $45,000 expected on the first week. "Dragon Seed" at Radio City Music Hall, "Wilson" at the Roxy and "Since You Went Away" at the Capitol will equal or better last week's grosses. The Music Hall expects an excellent fifth week of $121,000 for "Dragon Seed" and a stage show, which will be about the same as the fourth week. The film will easily remain at the Music Hall until after Labor Day and will give it at least seven weeks.

'Wilson's' $125,000

The third week of "Wilson" and a Fred Waring stage show is expected to give the Roxy about $125,000, some $3,000 better than the second week after deductions of Federal admission taxes. The opening week's gross on the same basis was close to $130,000, to give the house a record $377,000 for three weeks.

The Capitol expects about $80,000 on its fifth week of "Since You Went Away" and a Gene Krupa stage show which will be $1,000 more than the fourth week.

Business for the second week of "Hail the Conquering Hero" at the Paramount, with Vaughn Monroe and his band on the stage is on a par with the first week's business and another profitable $80,000 is expected. Third week for "Janie" and a stage show featuring Tommy Tucker and his band at the Strand is expected to bring $44,000, to better the second week's gross.

'Mr. Skeffington's' 13th Week

Also showing improvement this week are "The Story of Dr. Wassell," in its 11th week at the Rivoli, and "Mr. Skeffington" in its 13th week at the Hollywood. The Rivoli is grossing $28,000 and the Hollywood expects $20,000. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" is now in its 12th and final week at the Rivoli, with Paramount's "Till We Meet Again" set to take over Aug. 29. Warner's "Doughgirls" will follow "Mr. Skeffington" into the Hollywood Aug. 30.

The fourth week of "Step Lively" will bring the Palace about $18,500, which is close to the third week's business. "Atlantic City" at the Republic is playing to better business than in its first week and a second week's gross of $15,000 is expected. Also improved is business at the Globe, where "The Canterville Ghost" is headed for $18,000 on a fourth week and it will remain until Aug. 30, when "Wing and a Prayer" takes over. The eighth week of the reissue of "Dead End" is expected to give the Gotham about $6,200; it will hold until Aug. 30.

The final six days of an eighth week of "Bathing Beauty" gave the Astor about $12,500. M-G-M's "Kismet" will open at the Astor today. The second and final week of "Cry of the Werewolf" at the Rialto will bring about $7,000. Universal's "The Pearl of Death" will take over Friday. "Are These Our Parents?" will open at the Victoria today, following "A Wave, a Wac and a Marine."

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Nominees are Named For Academy Board

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Ballots listing the nominees for election to the new board of directors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will go out on Sept. 15. Nominations are made by members of the present board and ballots will go out to all Academy members. After the election returns are in, the new board so selected will meet, probably in early October, to elect new offices for the coming year.

Three members are to be elected from each of the following groups:

Players: Ingrid Bergman, Ronald Colman, Gary Cooper, Donald Crisp, Cary Grant, Jean Hersholt, Bob Hope, George Murphy and Rosalind Russell.

Directors: Clarence Brown, John Cromwell, George Cukor, Michael Curtiz, Mervyn LeRoy, George Marshall, Mark Sandrich, King Vidor and Sam Wood.

Producer-Executive Group

Producers and Executives: Walt Disney, William Dozier, Y. Frank Freeman, Samuel Goldwyn, E. J. Mannix, Hal B. Wallis, Walter Wanger, Jack L. Warner and Darryl F. Zanuck.

Writers: Charles Brackett, Howard Estabrook, James Hilton, Talbot Jennings, Mary McCall, Jr., Seton I. Miller, Jane Murfin, Lamar Trotti and Billy Wilder.

One member will be elected from each of the following groups:

Musicians: Nat Finston, Leo Forbstein and Louis R. Lipstone.

Short Subjects: Jerry Bresler, Gordon Hollingshead and Jules White.

Public Relations: Harry Brand, John LeRoy Johnston and Arch Reeve.

In the science branch there are nine nominees, three of whom will be elected. The nominees are W. B. Ihnen, William Pereira, Farciot Edouard, Henry Sharp, Louis Messenkop, Thomas Moulton, C. O. Slyfield, Hector Dodds and Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus.

Campaign for 'Brazil'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board, after screening the final cut version of Republic's "Brazil," announces an extended advertising-exploitation campaign for the film. Special screenings will be held for exhibitors and their publicity departments in all key cities. In cooperation with theatremen, Republic will develop advertising, publicity, radio, and billboard campaigns, first territorially, then welding these into a national promotion.

'Skeffington' on Dual Gets Nice $18,000

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 21.—"Mr. Skeffington," coupled with "Allergic to Love," lead here in a second week with $18,000 in the till.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19:

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $14,000).
"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,500).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
STRAND—1,400 (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $4,150. Average: $4,500).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
WARNER — (2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
RIVERSIDE—2,700 (65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000).

McDaniel, Former Film Star, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—George McDaniel, 58, former film star, died yesterday at his home in San Fernando.

McDaniel, who first appeared in film serials, was starred in "Shepherd of the Hills," "The Iron Hearts," "Silent Years" and "The Scrapper," and many others. He is survived by a son, now serving with the U. S. Navy; his father, six brothers and a sister.

WB Changes Corp. Title in Canada

TORONTO, Aug. 21.—Formal announcement was made today by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president, that the name of the Warner organization in Canada has been changed from Vitagraph Limited to Warner Bros. Pictures Distributing Company Ltd., with its headquarters continuing in Toronto. The change in the incorporation became effective Aug. 12, following a similar move in the United States.

Belita Revue Abandoned

CHICAGO, Aug. 21.—"Holidoy On Ice," road show which was to feature Belita, Monogram star, in key cities next season has been called off, it was learned here today, due to the inability to secure large arenas in the mapped cities. Arenas committed to play the Sonja Henie revue, "Ice Follies," and "Ice Capades" have turned down "Holiday" dates. The Belita show was to be produced by Frederick Brothers Artists Corp., owners of the title.

Golden's 'Family' to USO

John Golden has donated the entire production of "Three's a Family" to USO-Camp Shows for an overseas tour, including scenery and props. It is expected that the tour will get underway following completion of a roadshow run in Boston. "The First Year," also released to USO-Camp Shows by Golden, is scheduled for production later in the season and will be assigned to an overseas base for six months.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 21

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for two Warner stars to make pictures for other studios. Paramount has borrowed Jane Wyman to play the feminine role opposite Ray Milland in the picturization of Charles Jackson's much discussed novel, "The Lost Weekend," which Billy Wilder will direct and Charles Brackett produce; 20th Century-Fox has borrowed Joan Leslie to play opposite Fred MacMurray in "Where Do We Go From Here?"

•

Phil Rosen will direct "Mystery Mansion," next in the Monogram Charlie Chan series starring Sidney Toler and produced by James S. Burkett. . . . W. R. Frank will start work next week on his new picture, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog." . . . Edna May Wonacott, whom Alfred Hitchcock introduced to the screen in "Shadow of a Doubt," has been signed for Universal's "Musical Roundup," which Jean Yarbrough is directing for producer Warren Wilson. . . . Dorothy Lamour, Betty Hutton and Ray Milland will have the top roles in Paramount's forthcoming "Duffy's Tavern."

•

Keith Winter will write the screenplay of "Uncle Harry," which Joan Harrison will produce for Universal. . . . Lee (Lasses) White and Dennis Moore have been signed by producer Philip N. Krasne for the new "Saddle Pals" Western series, four of which will be made for Monogram. . . . Simon Semenoff, ballet dancer, will make his screen debut in Bing Crosby's "The Great John L." . . . Ernest Truex has been signed for an important role in RKO Radio's "Pan-Americana," featuring Phillip Terry, Audrey Long and Robert Benchley. John Auer is producing and directing. . . . Willie Best has been signed for a comedy role in "Pillar to Post" at Warners. . . . Nina Foch has been assigned by Columbia to an important part in "Hello, Mom," which Del Lord is directing.

•

Hunt Stromberg has signed nine-year-old Connie Laird to a five-year deal, his first with any child player. . . . Bruce Cabot, who has been honorably discharged from the Army, will return to the screen as the heavy in Paramount's "Salty O'Rourke." . . . Larry Parks will have a featured role in Columbia's "Counterattack," which stars Paul Muni and Marguerite Chapman, with Zoltan Korda directing. . . . Carleton Young, radio star, won his first important screen opportunity when M-G-M recently signed him for a part in "Thrill of Romance," color musical starring Van Johnson and Esther Williams.


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'Skeffington' Pulls $12,100 Over Par

BOSTON, Aug. 17.—Lack of freon and soaring temperatures here have sent many persons out of town. "Mr. Skeffington" opened at the Metropolitan to a tremendous $22,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 17:

"Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
Plus stage show
BOSTON—(3,200) (55c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $23,800).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
FENWAY—(1,437) (44c-55c-74c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,300).
"Song of Bernadette" (20th-Fox)
MAJESTIC—(1,400) ($1.10) Gross: $9,000. (Average: $19,300).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
METROPOLITAN — 4,367 (44c-65c-74c). Gross: $22,400. (Average: $10,300).
"She's a Soldier Too" (Col.)
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
ORPHEUM—(2,900) (44c-65c-74c) Gross: $18,700. (Average: $19,300).
"Between Two Worlds" (WB)
"Make Your Own Bed" (WB)
PARAMOUNT — (1,407) (44c-55c-74c). Gross: $11,600. (Average: $14,600).
"She's a Soldier Too" (Col.)
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
STATE — (3,900) (44c-55c-74c). Gross: $11,400. (Average: $12,800).
"Delinquent Daughters" (Rep.)
"Port of 40 Thieves" (Rep.)
TRANSLUX — (990) (30c-44c-65c). Gross: $8,400. (Average: $6,500).

'My Way' Gets Great $28,000 in 2d Week

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 21.—The Newman, with "Going My Way," continued in the lead here this week, doing another $28,000 in its second week. The Midland, with "Waterloo Bridge" and "Swing Fever," gathered a satisfying $17,000 for the seven days.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 22-25:

"In Society" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Waterloo Bridge" (MGM)
"Swing Fever" (MGM)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
"The Girl in the Case" (Col.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,400).
"In Society" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,600).
"In Society"(Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $1,600).

$120,000 for 'My Way'

CLEVELAND, Aug. 21.—Paramount's "Going My Way" has grossed over $120,000 in a four-week run at Loew's State here, breaking all previous attendance and gross records for the house. The film, first to hold four weeks at the State, has moved to Loew's Stillman, where it will play another two weeks and then will shift to Loew's Ohio for one week, playing simultaneous bookings at Loew's Park and Granada, first-run neighborhood houses.

Crouch Starts Four

William Crouch, executive producer of Mills' Film Crafts here, yesterday started work on four musical shorts at the company's Bronx studio.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



PARAMOUNT'S MODERNIZED PRODUCTION OF CECIL B. DE MILLE'S **"SIGN OF THE CROSS"** SCORES SMASHING FIRST OPENING AT TEXAS THEATRE, SAN ANTONIO, RUNNING 22% AHEAD OF WEEK'S HOUSE AVERAGE IN FIRST FOUR DAYS OF RUN! BUILDING POWER OF CLAUDETTE COLBERT -- FREDRIC MARCH -- CHARLES LAUGHTON -- ELISSA LANDI FOUR-STARRER PROVED WHEN FOURTH DAY TOPPED OPENING DAY BY 54%!

'Society' Is $5,400 Over in Capital

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Business was a little off here this week due mostly to hold-overs. But Keith's, with "In Society," should do an excellent $19,000 for the week. "Going My Way" moved over to the Columbia for a fifth dowtown week, and is headed for $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 24:

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Harriet Hoctor. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c). 7 days, 5th downtown week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $8,200).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. On stage: Marie Nash. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,700).
"In Society" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $13,600.
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 6 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,000).

'Society's' $19,000 Leads in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Aug. 21.—Cooler weather brought out weekend crowds who gave a definite boost to business. "In Society" took $19,000 at Keith's, which is $4,000 above par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 24:

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,000).
"In Society" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Sweet and Low-Down" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Henny Youngman, Patricia Morison, Ben Yost's Mimic Men, Tyler, Renard & Arden, Four Elgins. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,500).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

'Impatient Years'

The names of several principals in the cast of Columbia's "The Impatient Years" were omitted inadvertently from the review of the picture published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. The paragraph in question should have read:

"To Miss Arthur's lead, Lee Bowman furnishes a faultless accompaniment, while Charles Coburn, Edgar Buchanan, Harry Davenport, Charley Grapewin, Grant Mitchell, Jane Darwin and the others provide flawless characterizations rounding out an impressive ensemble performance."

Two New Imports

Herman G. Weinberg of Titra Films has begun writing English titles for two imported films which will have their American premieres in New York late this month. The films are "Le Rosier de Madame Husson," a French production, and "Himlaspelet," Swedish counterpart of "Green Pastures."

Side Glances — *by Galbraith*



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6-14

"Love, quarrel and make up—same old stuff! Give me a good old cowboy picture where anybody is liable to get shot any minute!"

Reprinted from the New York World Telegram of June 14th—and 513 Newspapers—Coast to Coast

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 37 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1944 TEN CENTS

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27 from 20th Next Season Drop of Two

Connors Cites 10 in Color, 9 Musicals

Twenty-seven features, 54 short subjects, including 13 issues of March of Time, plus 104 issues of Movietonews, are on the 1944-45 program of 20th Century Fox, it was announced here yesterday by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales. The company will deliver 29 features in the current season.



Tom Connors

Connors pointed out that the lineup will have 10 films in color, including "Wilson." This is the larg-

(Continued on page 3)

New Rules on Soldier Films

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—The War Department today issued new instructions on the dissemination of motion pictures and other material to the Armed Forces, in conformity with the revised "political ban" legislation just signed by President Roosevelt.

The War-Department announced that there is now no legal soldier restriction on films or broadcasts gen-

(Continued on page 8)

Newsreels Improve Sound Track Level

What is described as an important change in newsreel sound track levels was announced here yesterday by a technical sound committee representing the five newsreels. On the recommendation of this committee, it was decided to reduce the present recording level of the newsreels to an intensity equivalent to the sound stand-

(Continued on page 8)

$450,000 Bond for Distributor Appeal

Chicago, Aug. 22.—Federal Judge Michael Igoe yesterday approved a bond of $450,000 required of the defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust case to carry the action to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. He also approved the sum of $30,000 as attorney fees for plaintiff counsel to be paid by the defendants—Balaban and Katz and several distributors under the verdict issued by him in favor of the plaintiff last June.

The case is expected to reach the higher court here in November.

26 Exchanges For Hirliman

Film Classics, headed by George Hirliman, has closed five additional franchise deals, bringing its field branches to 26. With deals pending for the three territories which remain

(Continued on page 6)

Rank Is Still Seeking U.S. Distribution

The reported deal for United Artists to distribute approximately ten films in the United States made by J. Arthur Rank's British production companies and Two Cities Films is far from set, according to Barrington C. Gain, distribution representative for Rank, who arrived here late yesterday from London.

Gain made it clear that no distribution deal has been set with United Artists as had been assumed here when Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president and distribution head, recently completed conversations with Rank in London. Sears and David H. Coplan, UA managing director in Great Britain, also arrived here yesterday

(Continued on page 6)

Cut Price, Not Tax For 12-16 Group

Children's theatre admission scales in New York, heretofore applicable only to youngsters under 12 years of age, will be extended, beginning pos-

(Continued on page 8)

Films' Annual Payroll Hits $360,713,000

Over 2 Billion Invested In Industry, U. S. Says

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—The film industry's payroll is running around $360,713,000 annually, to some 204,000 employees, according to a report for last year made here today by the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, which also found $65,434,416 paid out for advertising and $55,000,000 for insurance in 1943.

Box office receipts, exclusive of Federal and state taxes, amounted to $1,362,250,000.

The industry, according to the bureau, represents an investment of $2,061,000,000, of which $126,000,000 is in studios, $23,000,000 in distribution, $10,000,000 in non-theatrical materials, and $1,900,000,000 in theatres.

The average adult film patron last

(Continued on page 6)

Theatre Taxes $107,000,000

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—Federal admission tax collections from theatres during the fiscal year ended last June 30 ran around $107,000,000, compared with $82,800,000 in the preceding fiscal year, it is estimated on the basis of figures made available today by the Treasury Department.

Separating the collections from places carrying the admission-tax rate from those paying the cabaret taxes, the Department disclosed that the for-

(Continued on page 8)

Record Grosses for 'Wilson' and 'Seed'

The three-week gross of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson," 20th Century-Fox, playing a roadshow engagement at the Roxy Theatre, here, at advanced admissions, reached $377,000 at the end of the third week last night giving the theatre almost $2,000 more than the record-breaking first three weeks

(Continued on page 6)

Schenck Reports 'Polio' Drive High of $4,667,520

March of Dimes drive chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, yesterday, announced that total theatre collections reported by state chairmen nationally were $4,667,520 for the 1944 campaign during the week of Jan. 24-30. This compares with $2,122,340 collected in the 1943 drive and with what was described as the timid forecasts made prior to the 1944 drive that $3,000,000 might be reached.



Nicholas M. Schenck

The cost of conducting the 1944 campaign also set a new record,

(Continued on page 6)

Theatre Bond Sale Cited by Treasury

Washington, Aug. 22.—The industry made an "outstanding record" in Fifth War Loan "E" bond sales, the U. S. Treasury stated today, commenting that "theatres made a particularly intensive effort" and that "a greater volume of advertising and publicity was contributed than in any previous drive."

Total bond sales amounted to $20,600,000,000, with "E" bond sales amounting to $3.-036,000,000. Much of the credit for putting over the securities of the latter class must go to the industry, the Treasury indicated.

Personal Mention

EDWARD K. O'SHEA, Eastern sales manager for M-G-M, will leave today for Buffalo on business.

•

SAUL KRUGMAN, former United Artists salesman in Philadelphia, now in the U. S. Navy, became the father of a daughter born recently to MRS. KRUGMAN at St. Joseph's Hospital in Philadelphia.

•

BOB HOPE and his USO Camp Shows unit have arrived in Hollandia, Netherlands New Guinea. In the troupe are FRANCES LANGFORD, JERRY COLONNA, PATTY THOMAS and BARNEY DEAN.

•

ELEANOR MEINSINGER, secretary to EDWARD MCAVOY, Universal's short subject sales manager, was married recently to LIEUT. ARTHUR SHEA of the U. S. Maritime Service, Bristol, Pa.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Eastern district manager for Monogram, is remaining in Chicago for several days following the company's recent sales meeting there, before departing for Detroit.

•

JOHN R. WOOD, sales manager for March of Time, and MRS. WOOD, are the parents of a third daughter, VALERIE JOAN, born recently at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, Conn.

•

I. L. HALEY, manager of the Dundas and Mayfair theatres at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and MRS. HALEY have returned from a vacation trip to St. John.

•

MONTY BANKS, producer and director, has arrived in New York from Hollywood. He will be at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel for two weeks.

•

W. H. CUZNER, owner of the Strand, Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia, has been elected vice-president of the local Rotary Club.

•

ROBERT SHAPIRO, assistant manager of the Paramount Theatre, New York, is on vacation. GENE PLESHETTE is substituting.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Warner Bros. assistant general sales manager, has returned from California.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO Radio advertising-publicity head, has returned from California.

•

RICHARD MORGAN of the Paramount legal department is vacationing at Thousand Islands.

•

SAUL FRIFIELD, Paramount Cleveland exchange manager, has left for a trip to Hollywood.

•

ABE KRAMER, Associated Theatres executive in Cleveland, has left for Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Aug. 22

AGAIN we have the business of grand illusion. This time it is action of Chicago circuits in advertising war pictures for what they are not and thereby raising an immediate question of good faith, touched with commercial wisdom.

Terry Ramsaye was discussing overlong attractions in *Motion Picture Herald* recently. In inveighing against the practice which is a growing one, born of artistic illusion in Hollywood, he observed, "A picture can hit and run. The theatre cannot."

Neither can the management unless it ducks into a convenient alley until the hubbub subsides.

■

The juvenile procedure of the short-sighted Chicago circuits in adult 1944 in misrepresenting their merchandise, offered at prevailing prices for public purchase cannot survive. Because they have discovered, or think they have, a drift against war pictures is no excuse to try to transform a spade into a heart. Doing so may get them by with current attractions, but it won't if they persist.

As one instance, there was "The Eve of St. Mark" at the Apollo. The *Herald* reports only title and stars were advertised, plus copy reading: "Darling, I'm yours, only yours, all yours." The public may have been the theatre's this one time and, perhaps, it will be for several times to come. It won't be on the continuing basis required for any house to maintain its hold if there is much more of the same tactic.

The theatre cannot run, but its public can. Like the blazes.

■

All of this prompts a simple and basic observation. The public is expected to retain its fidelity for motion pictures and the theatres which play them. Much has been discussed about exaggeration in advertising, in many cases leading audiences into believing they were buying a golden jewel for a 50-cent admission. Too much cannot be written in deploring deliberate falsification which seeks to convert films with clear-cut war stories into something which they are not.

It reminds of part of the radio campaign used in Los Angeles and Hollywood for "The Story of Dr. Wassell." Air-wave copy at one point was, "The most amazing story to come out of the war, yet not a war story!" And that reminds of the unprintable one about the aunt and the uncle and what makes each different.

On another tack, it reminds finally of a noted producer, aware of the first recession in war films. He described one of his big ones, as, "a service story." The only connection the picture had with the war was that it was all about war.

■ ■

"The Impatient Years" has a dual distinction. No. 1, it is a choice-grade attraction, rich unto sufficiency with funny situations and a series of fine performances headed by Jean Arthur, Lee Bowman and Charles Coburn. No. 2, it is the first job to emerge from Hollywood with an approach of intelligence and reason to the problem of wartime marriages.

In his dialogue stretches, Coburn places his finger neatly on the issue before the two principals, who are Miss Arthur and Bowman. He holds up their marriage and its outcome as one of considerably vaster importance because theirs is one of a million others in the nation. We suppose the figure was not drawn out of a hat, but represents research and accuracy.

■

The intelligence and the reason come from the lips of Coburn, as Miss A's father, and Edgar Buchanan, judge before whom a petition for divorce is filed. In different language, they establish the backbone and background philosophy of the story which is never subordinated to preachment. Their reasoned point is that marriage is a serious affair; that it is supposed to run on and on; that romanticism is only a prelude to realism; that there must be some calm after the tempest; that the mere leap is not sufficient because there must be solid ground on which to land.

There is, of course, no argument against marriage. The film does not say short romances during the war should not reach fulfillment. It simply sets forth the need for mixing reason and thinking with moonlight.

Many, and probably great numbers of people throughout the country, will find this of interest, abstractly and personally. Thus, "The Impatient Years" does a service as it meets its primary function: to entertain.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 22

COMMISSIONER Louis R. Livingston has been assigned by the U. S. Conciliation Service as conciliator between the SOEG and the Producers' Association in contract negotiations which were broken off over dispute on 'sick-leave' benefits.

•

Walt Disney plans to follow the production of "Three Caballeros" with a feature tentatively called "Carnival," which will have the cooperation of the Cuban Government.

•

Joyce Reynolds has been elevated to stardom by Jack Warner as a result of her work in "Janie."

•

RKO signed Frank Borzage to direct "The Spanish Main" in Technicolor.

•

Henry Hathaway, director, signed a new two-year contract with 20th-Fox.

•

Irene Dunne stars in "Over 21," Sidney Buchman's first under his new producing deal with Columbia.

•

Sol Lesser purchased "Spotlight," an original, for a top-budget musical.

•

Scott Dunlap and George B. West will arrive tomorrow.

•

G. Lester Kaufman took over the Republic studio publicity department

Testimonial Tonight For Robert Menches

AKRON, O., Aug. 22. — Robert Menches, former owner of the Liberty Theatre which his father owned before him, is being honored with a testimonial dinner at the Mayflower Hotel here tomorrow, upon his retirement from business. Exhibitors are staging the affair in honor of Menches who organized and for many years headed the Akron Exhibitors' Association. Two years ago Menches sold the Liberty Theatre to Cleveland interests and continued on as manager until his recent resignation.

Bolte's 30th Anniversary

John C. Bolte, observing his 30th anniversary in the industry, last night entertained guests and his employees of the Wakefield and Laconia Theatres in the Bronx at dinner at Myers Parkway Restaurant. Among the guests were Harry Brandt and Max Cohen.

Alicoate New Press Head

At a meeting of the trade press division of the War Activities Committee here yesterday, Jack Alicoate was elected chairman, "Chick" Lewis, vice-chairman. Alicoate succeeded Martin Quigley, resigned. Lewis fills the post vacated by Alicoate.

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Films, Radio Will Aid United Nations

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—Motion pictures and radio are to be given specific and important roles in a plan for a permanent international organization for food and agriculture, recommended by the United Nations' Hot Springs Conference of June, 1943, and provided for in a report and proposed constitution which has been submitted to the governments of the United Nations, it was disclosed here tonight.

Expected to be the first permanent international group evolved by the united and associated nations to carry their war collaboration into peace time, the food and agriculture organization of the United Nations will take over the work of insuring that all nations shall have access to adequate agricultural supplies as soon as the constitution is accepted by 20 of the 44 nations which participated in its development.

The report to the governments, released here tonight by Canadian Minister L. B. Pearson as spokesman for the interim commission which prepared it, calls for effective use of motion pictures and radio to spread practical information regarding methods of agricultural production and other problems, but explained that the extent to which the organization itself should furnish material for such dissemination will depend upon the course of its development.

However, the report warned, "whatever may be done in this field should be safeguarded with unusual care against the risk of exploitation and misrepresentation for purposes of commercial or other propaganda."

Dance Hall 1st Run Sparks Controversy

RENO, Aug. 22.—Tony Pecetti's Ballroom was the cynosure of interest this evening with the Reno premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's "Up in Arms," as the producer translated into reality the issue of "fair percentage" valuation in his conflict with the T and D Circuit controlling five theatres in this city. The ballroom, seating only 400 played to capacity with the first night's receipts going to the American Red Cross. Goldwyn hired the ballroom when he could not come to rental terms with T. and D.

Earlier in the day Goldwyn said he will fight to a finish to get "fair money terms" for his product, while he sees in the step he has taken the "future of independent production at stake."

"I am in Reno to fight," he said, "in this symbolic situation. Unfair film buying practices exist in many parts of the country. Reno is typical of the squeeze faced in all too many cases by independent producers. By "squeeze" I mean the system by which many theatre units, large and small, deprive producers of their rightful share of boxoffice dollars."

Plan Screen Party

DENVER, Aug. 22.—The Rocky Mountain Screen Club will hold its annual all-industry picnic next Tuesday at the Park Hill Country Club. The program will include a golf tourney.

27 from 20th Next Year, 10 in Color, 9 Musicals

(*Continued from page* 1)

est number of pictures in color the company has ever released in one season. Connors also pointed out that the 1944-45 program will offer nine musicals. Unusual in the company's product announcement is the listing of release dates through the entire season.

Among the 27 features are two specials, Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" and Franz Werfel's "The Song of Bernadette," which are having road show engagements at advanced prices.

Complete List

The complete list of features, besides "Wilson" and "Bernadette," for 1944-1945, from August, 1944, through July, 1945, follows:

"Take It or Leave It," musical, based on the radio program, produced by Bryan Foy and directed by Benjamin Stoloff, an August release; "Wing and a Prayer," produced by Wm. Bacher and Walter Morosco, directed by Henry Hathaway, with Don Ameche, Dana Andrews, an August release; "Sweet and Lowdown," starring Benny Goodman and his band, produced by William LeBaron, directed by Archie Mayo, a September release; "Dangerous Journey," the Denis-Roosevelt Expedition into unexplored outposts, produced and filmed by Denis Armand and Leila Roosevelt, narration by Conrad Nagel, a September release; "Greenwich Village," musical, produced by William LeBaron, directed by Walter Lang in color, with Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda, William Bendix, a September release; "In the Meantime, Darling," produced and directed by Otto Preminger, for October release.

'Irish Eyes Are Smiling'

Also: "Irish Eyes Are Smiling," musical, in color, produced by Damon Runyon, directed by Gregory Ratoff, with Monty Woolley, Dick Haymes, June Haver, Anthony Quinn, for October release; "The Big Noise," starring Laurel and Hardy, produced by Sol Wurtzel and directed by Mal St. Clair, for October release; "Eyes of the Kingdom," by A. J. Cronin, produced by Joseph Mankiewicz, directed by John M. Stahl, from a screen play by Joseph Mankiewicz and Nunnally Johnson, for November release; "Laura," by Vera Caspary, produced and directed by Otto Preminger, for November release; "Something for the Boys," from the Broadway musical, in color, produced by Irving Starr, directed by Lewis Seiler, for December release.

Also: "Winged Victory," based on Moss Hart's stage play, a Zanuck production, directed by George Cukor, with the Army Air Forces cast that appeared on Broadway, augmented by 20th Century-Fox players, for December release; "Thunderhead—Son of Flicka," sequel to "My Friend Flicka," based on Mary O'Hara's book, in color, produced by Robert Bassler, directed by Louis King, for January, 1945, release; "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier," magazine story by Martha Cheavin, produced by Walter Morosco, directed by Lloyd Bacon, for January release; "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," color musical, produced by William Perlberg, directed by George Seaton, starring Betty Grable, for February release; "Czarina," producer, Ernst Lubitsch; director, Otto Preminger; based on the stage play by Melchior Lengyel and Lajos Biro, cast headed by Tallulah Bankhead, for February release; "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," adaptation of Betty Smith's novel, produced by Louis D. Lighton, directed by Elia Kazan, for March release.

'Nob Hill' in Color

Also: "Nob Hill," color musical, produced by Andre Daven, directed by Henry Hathaway, starring George Raft and Joan Bennett, for April release; "Hangover Square," novel by Patrick Hamilton, produced by Robert Bassler, directed by John Brahm, starring George Sanders and Linda Darnell, for April release; "Where Do We Go From Here?", musical based on an original by Morrie Ryskind and Sig Herzig, in color, produced by William Perlberg, directed by Gregory Ratoff, music by Ira Gershwin and Kurt Weill, starring Fred MacMurray, for May release; "Bon Voyage," based on the Josephine Lawrence novel, "Tower of Steel," produced by William Bacher, directed by Lee Strassberg, for May release; "A Bell for Adano," by John Hersey, produced by Louis D. Lighton, directed by Henry King, for June release; "Waltz Me Around Again, Willie," in color, produced by William Perlberg, starring Monty Woolley, Gracie Field sand Dick Haymes, for June release; "Colonel Effingham's Raid," produced by Lamar Trotti, for July, 1945, release; "The Dolly Sisters," in color, produced by George Jessel, directed by Irving Cummings, starring Betty Grable and Alice Faye, for July release.

Short Subjects

Connors also disclosed that the company's short subject program for 1944-45 will include 20 single-reel subjects produced by the Movietone organization, 20 color cartoons produced by Terrytoon, 13 March of Time subjects, a two-reel special, and two Movietonews each week.

Movietone will supply 12 "Movietone Adventures," in color; six Ed Thorgersen "Sport Reviews," four in color, and two Lew Lehr "Dribblepuss Parade" novelties. Paul Terry will deliver eight Mighty Mouse specials, and 12 regular cartoons. The 104 Movietonews reels will be produced under the direction of Edmund Reek. Thirteen March of Time two-reel subjects, first of which is "British Imperialism—1944," will be distributed one every four weeks. All of the subjects will be in color, with the exception of March of Time, the Lew Lehr novelties and a two-reel special, "Three Sisters of the Moors."

Furstenberg to Filmack

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—Oscar Furstenberg has rejoined Filmack Trailer here as production manager after 18 months in a defense plant.

NBC to Golf Today

National Broadcasting's annual press golf tournament will be held today at the Bonnie Briar Country Club, Larchmont, N. Y.

To Continue USO Shows

Plans for postwar continuance of USO-Camp Shows and 30 other agencies supported by the National War Fund were outlined yesterday at a luncheon of the New York War Fund entertainment division held at the Hotel Lexington here in connection with the annual drive to raise $17,200,000 throughout the city between Sept. 20 and Armistice Day, Nov. 1.

Richard W. Lawrence, campaign chairman, disclosed that the work of the participating groups is being geared to look after the needs of service men following demobilization. To this end, he said, a special agency, 'with an adequate budget,' will be set up to co-operate closely with the Federal Government. "New York," he added, "pioneering in this respect, will establish a pattern for other sections of the country."

Also, according to George D. Proctor, NYWF public relations director, special preparations are being made to assure the success of the drive even if the European phase of the war should end abruptly before or during the campaign. "The Government," Proctor said, "is anxious that our work shall continue, and special recordings are being prepared to acquaint the public with this fact if the need should arise."

F. J. Schwartz Pledges Aid

Fred J. Schwartz, chairman of the motion picture division, after pledging the aid of the 900 theatres in this area in boosting the campaign through lobby and marquee displays and through such trailers as the current "Memo for Joe," added the suggestion that a special trailer be prepared to enable neighborhood houses to help recruit the 50,000 canvassers who will be needed for the house-to-house solicitation.

Special campaign events, as outlined by Proctor, will include four major rallies during the canvass, plus an opening-day dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, a life-saving demonstration by the United Seamen's Service, on Sept. 27, a USO-Camp Show demonstration in Central Park Oct. 1, and a women's exposition at Rockefeller Center throughout the week of Oct. 25.

Pledges of support were also voiced at the meeting by James E. Sauter, entertainment division chairman; Bert Lytell, president of Actors Equity; Harold A. Lafount, radio division chairman, and Sarah Pennoyer, Bonwit Teller promotion director, who will have charge of window displays. Among others present were Irving Windish of the Strand Theatre; Abe Lastfogel and Lawrence Phillips, USO-Camp Shows; Howard Bey of the Scenic Artists Union, and Harry Levin of the Office of War Information.

Nat'l Screen Annual Convention Sept. 15-17

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—National Screen Service, Herman Robbins, president, will hold its annual national sales convention at the Blackstone Hotel here for three days starting Friday, Sept. 15.

Fred Mindlin, head of the NSS trailer department here, will join the company's sales force this Fall.

THE WORD FOR

KISMET

IS

COLOSSAL!

EXTRA! OPENING DAY *(Yesterday)* BEAT EVERY M-G-M PICTURE IN ASTOR THEATRE HISTORY!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924-1944 MGM





WORLD PREMIERE ENGAGEMENT AT ASTOR, N. Y. IS OFF TO A COLOSSAL START!

Keep Selling Bonds

Films' Annual Payroll Hits $360,713,000

(Continued from page 1)

year attended the theatre about 32 times, stayed there 64 hours and paid an average of 27.5 cents admission, it was calculated by Dorothy V. Knibb of the bureau.

An analysis of audience habits showed that the average person last year went to the theatre eight times on a Sunday, or two and a half times as often as on Monday; attended twice as often on Saturday as on Tuesday, and on Wednesday and on Thursday, went as often as on Monday and Tuesday, but only two-thirds as often as on Friday. Three chances to four, the average patron was in the theatre between 7:30 and 8:30 P.M., the hour in which there was the largest percentage of adult admissions.

Demands Under Difficulties

Demands of a U. S.-reported 17,919 civilian theatres with a total seating capacity of 11,700,789 were met last year by the producers under great difficulties, due to restrictions on films, materials and equipment, the Government declared. (Last report, this year, of the industry's War Activities Committee listed a total of 16,793 theatres in the U. S.)

"The Producers, accustomed to profligate use of supplies, learned a real lesson in economy," it was said. "More care was taken in making shots, and whatever materials were available were used and then used again. Problems were often difficult, but Hollywood solved them."

Producers' Record

In addition to product for the home trade and for service men overseas, the producers made many pictures for the armed forces training program and for the Government agencies, while for their part the newsreel companies devoted 39.8 per cent of their clips to activties of the United Nations' fighting forces, 19.6 per cent to home activities of U. S. Armed Forces, 7.7 per cent to messages for war agencies and 7.4 per cent to war production, the Government report continued.

"In no previous war have the people at home been so well informed about what was going on in all parts of the world," the Bureau commented. "Despite the war," it concluded, "last year was the biggest motion pictures has ever known. Box office receipts were larger than in other years when there were more features produced and more theatres kept open.

"When one considers that in 1943 the aims of the industry were to serve the country and its citizens not only by furnishing entertainment and relaxation but also by cooperating with the Government and its agencies in disseminating information and inculcating ideas, then the year was a particularly important one."

Schenck Reports 'Polio' Drive High of $4,667,520

(Continued from page 1)

2.08 percent, against 2.64 percent in 1943, Schenck disclosed. The drive also set a record in the number of theatres that participated and reported. A further report is being prepared giving details on the drive, showing collections theatre by theatre. This will be mailed to exhibitors.

In announcing the final results, Chairman Schenck yesterday paid tribute to the efforts put into the drive by theatre owners, managers and their staffs. "When one considers that this vast sum represents probably 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 contributions in pennies, nickels and dimes, it is easy to grasp the amount of work put into the drive by theatre men," said Schenck, adding: "The knowledge that our industry, through its close contact with the public, can turn in such a fine job for so humanitarian a cause must be thrilling to everyone who participated."

Schenck pointed out that the money raised through the film industry drive has already been put into action. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has been called upon to rush assistance to local forces now fighting severe polio outbreaks in North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and northern New York.

U. S. Reports Rise In 'Polio' Cases

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22.—The Public Health Service made known today that the poliomyelitis epidemic grew in the first two weeks of this month, with 932 cases reported in the week to Aug. 5. In the following week there were 1,015 cases.

This lifted the country-wide total since the start of the outbreak to almost 4,250 cases. Totals during July increased from 290 in the first week to 738 in the last week. The July total of 2,300 cases was about 1,000 more than in July, 1943, which was the highest in recent years.

Seek Health Closings

PADUCAH, Ky., Aug 22.—Charging that it had been embarrassed by "discriminatory action" on the part of the McCracken County Board of Health which ordered closed the Heinnes Bros. Shows here, due to the infantile paralysis epidemic, the American Legion has requested that all places of entertainment be closed for the duration of the epidemic.

Record Grosses for 'Wilson' and 'Seed'

(Continued from page 1)

of M-G-M's "Dragon Seed" at nearby Radio City Music Hall.

The first three weeks "Dragon Seed" total was $375,000, said by the management to be the highest three-week gross for the theatre.

Deducting Federal admission taxes from grosses reported for the Roxy, the theatre took in $130,000 in the first week; $122,000 for the second, and $125,000 in the third.

Attendance figures for the Music Hall for the first three weeks surpassed those of the Roxy, however. The Music Hall scale ranges from 60 cents at opening to $1.10 in the evening while the Roxy scale ranges from 76 cents at opening to $1.50 at night, all prices including tax, giving the Music Hall an average admission price of only 83 cents while the Roxy average is $1.12.

By the time "Dragon Seed" completes its fifth week at the Music Hall tonight it will have given the theatre a record gross of $617,000 which is not only a five-week record for the Music Hall but for the entire industry according to G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of the theatre.

Doushkess Rites Held

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Park West Memorial Chapel here for Milton Doushkess of the M-G-M title department who died suddenly Monday. With M-G-M two years, Doushkess formerly wrote English titles for foreign films.

26 Exchanges for Hirliman Setup

(Continued from page 1)

open, complete national distribution coverage is expected to be attained before Sept. 15.

Included in the five new deals are: Film Classics of Minneapolis, headed by Joseph Wolf who recently resigned after five years as sales representative of Paramount in the Twin Cities; Film Classics of the Northwest, with branches in Seattle and Portland, headed by William Forman who operates 10 theatres in Oregon and Washington and was formerly associated with John Dantz in the Northwest; Film Classics of Indiana, which will be operated by Harvey Gold in association with William Rosenthal, who operates his own circuit in that area.

Also: Film Classics of Buffalo with distribution facilities in both Buffalo and Albany, headed by Sanford Gottlie who has resigned after 10 years with M-G-M in Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis and Milwaukee territories; and Film Classics of Dallas, headed by John L. Franconi, who since the inception of Monogram in 1937 held a half-interest in the Texas franchise as well as being interested in Kansas City for a period, having sold these interests within the past month.

Morrell Dies in France

Pvt. John F. Morell, 23, formerly of the M-G-M home office, has been killed in action in France, according to word received from the War Department by his father, Ernest Morell, former head of Loew's transportation division.

Rank Is Still Seeking U.S. Distribution

(Continued from page 1)

from London with Gain and Dr. Alexander Galperson.

Gain told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that both he and Dr. Galperson, distribution representative of Two Cities, are here to seek "the most advantageous distribution arrangement" for the 10 films. He did not rule out the possibility that a deal might eventually be made with United Artists to handle the films but he indicated that he will confer with other film companies on possible distribution. He expects to confer with 20th Century-Fox officials and representatives of other companies while he and Dr. Galperson are here.

Eagle-Lion's Position

There is no intention to have Eagle-Lion Films, Rank's selling company in the U. S. headed by Arthur Kelly, handle the distribution of Rank films at present, Gain said, because it would be almost impossible for Eagle-Lion to set up exchanges and start functioning here before the postwar period in view of difficulties in securing necessary facilities and manpower.

Previous to Gain's revelation that no deal had been set between UA and Rank in London, it had been assumed that Sears was returning here with a provisional deal which called for UA to distribute a minimum of 10 of Rank's and Two Cities' films. Arrangements were also understood to have been made for Rank to make one or two UA quota films but Sears could not be reached last night for comment on the results of his conversations with Rank.

Whereas it was previously assumed that Gain and Dr. Galperson were accompanying Sears here from London to finalize the deal for UA to distribute the films after the UA board of directors approved the deal, Gain and Dr. Galperson indicated last night that they are here to arrange for distribution of the films, a mission which brought them here earlier this year before Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, arranged a far-reaching collaborative production-distribution deal with Rank in London last May.

Cooper Meets Trade Press as Producer

International Pictures introduced Gary Cooper for the first time to the New York trade press as a producer at a luncheon at Toots Schor's yesterday.

International representatives who were present included: Alfred W. Schwalberg, sales representative; John LeRoy Johnston, publicity head; Robert Goldstein, Eastern talent and story representative; and Arthur Jeffrey, Eastern publicity head. RKO Radio representatives who attended included S. Barret McCormick, advertising and publicity head; Rutgers Neilson, publicity manager and Robert Boehnel, home office publicist.

'Bathing Beauty', at $25,000, Leads in Cooler Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 22.—With a break in the heat spell, business at downtown houses started the week at a better pace in the face of a heavy schedule of holdovers and second runs. Of the new openings, "Bathing Beauty" leads the field, with $25,000 expected at the Stanley in addition to the $3,000 for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. Of the holdovers, "Dragon Seed" continues big at the Boyd, pointing to $21,800 for a third week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23-25:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $14,600).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 9 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,800. (Average: $18,000).

"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.) (6 days)
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville including Peter Lorre, Ray Kinney's orchestra, The Coral Islanders with Al Powers, The Oxford Boys and Jean, Jack & Judy. Gross: $27,200. (Average: $27,600).

"Wing and A Prayer" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $20,500).

"Two Girls and A Sailor" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,600).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,800).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).

"The Invisible Man's Return" (Univ.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-35c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average:$9,400).

'Skeffington' Takes Cleveland Honors

CLEVELAND, Aug. 22.—"Mr. Skeffington" moved into first place here with everything pointing to a big $26,000 at Warners' Hippodrome. Frankie Carle's orchestra, supplemented by a strong stage bill, and "Kansas City Kitty" on the screen, made for heavy attendance at the RKO Palace with the week's take not less than $36,000.

Estimated receipts for week ending Aug. 23:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Pin-Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200).

"Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Frankie Carle Orchestra, June Preisser, Jackie Welk. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $10,000).

'Skeffington', 'Way' Tops in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 22.—"Mr. Skeffington" finally moved into the Penn with an estimated $25,000 gross, while "Going My Way" continued to pile up returns to the tune of $17,000 at the Warner.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 21-25:

FULTON—Still closed for repairs will open Aug. 25 with Deanna Durbin in "Christmas Holiday."

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS, J. P.—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,100).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $21,700).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, second week, moveover from Stanley. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).

"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,400).

"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, fifth week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $9,350).

'Show Business' in Toronto Over Par

TORONTO, Aug. 22.—"Show Business" is paving the way toward $14,800 at Shea's and "White Cliffs of Dover," in its third week at Loew's, appeared to be heading for $12,200, while the Imperial pointed to $12,300 with "Once Upon a Time." Grosses were helped by cooler weather.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 24:

"Nine Girls" (Col.)
"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 daays, 3rd week. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $11,200).

"Show Business" (RKO)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Nine Girls" (Col.)
"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average, $9,800).

250,340 in Buffalo See 'Going My Way'

BUFFALO, Aug. 22.—"Dragon Seed" is bidding for the lead at the Great Lakes with an anticipated $23,800. "Going My Way," in a sixth moveover week at the Hippodrome, will do $12,000. This has been Buffalo's greatest motion picture run of all time.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 26:

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,400. (Average: $17,400).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $23,800. (Average: $16,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 6th week, moveover. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,700).

"Manpower" (WB)
"7 Days Ashore" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,200).

"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
"The Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,400).

'Beauty' Is Terrific On $21,000 Gross

CINCINNATI, Aug. 22.—Despite continuance of abnormal heat, the attendance curve remains upward, particularly with "Bathing Beauty," heading for a terrific $21,000 at the RKO Albee, where the average is $13,500. "Dragon Seed" will register an estimated $15,000 at the RKO Capitol, up $5,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23-26:

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000 (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $10,000).

"Underground Guerrillas" (Col.)
"Call of the Rockies" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).

"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
"The Pinto Bandit" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 5th week, following three weeks at the Palace and one week at the Grand. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,0000. (Average: $13,500).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following one week at the Palace and one week at the Shubert. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

Indianapolis Soars, $20,000 for 'Dixie'

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 22.—Receipts at all theatres here are soaring this week. The Circle, with "South of Dixie" and a stage show, will do $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 22-24:

"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,800).

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Black Parachute" (Col.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,600).

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,500).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Secrets of Scotland Yard" (Rep.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,900).

'Take It' on Dual Is Setting Omaha Pace

OMAHA, Aug. 22.—"Take It or Leave It," coupled with "The Man from Frisco" scored the top boxoffice take here at the Orpheum theatre with $12,100. Weather was cooler.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23-24:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Girl in the Case" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,500).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
"Moon over Las Vegas" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,400).

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Man from 'Frisco" (Rep.)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,880).

"In Society" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $11,700).



Cut Price, Not Tax For 12-16 Group

(Continued from page 1)

sibly tomorrow and continuing until Sept. 11, to include those up to 16, it was decided yesterday at a meeting in City Hall attended by officials of affiliated and independent circuits and representatives and legal advisers of Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia.

Children between 12 and 16, however, will be required to pay the full adult Federal admission tax, it was announced following the session, this provision being included because the law does not permit those in the upper-age bracket to be considered in the juvenile class for tax purposes.

As an example of the new arrangement, a spokesman for one of the large circuits explained yesterday that, where the adult admission price is 40 cents, which is about average, children under 12 will continue to pay 17 cents admission, plus three cents tax, while those between 12 and 16 will pay 17, plus six.

Stamp Poses Problem

Whether or not it will be possible to use a special stamp on existing tickets to cover patrons admitted as children and taxed as adults will be one of the details worked out at a second meeting of the theatre representatives, scheduled for today.

This temporary lowering of prices was originally proposed by the Mayor ostensibly to get teen-age children off the streets. However, for many months youngsters in many parts of the country have been complaining of discrimination on prices at the box offices. Some of the complaints have been filed with and taken up by newspapers, parent-teachers associations and other groups. It marks the first time that any recognition has been given by exhibitors here to the public complaints, and, although the concession is scheduled to stay in effect only for the remainder of the Summer school holiday, the way is said to be open for a wider appplication next Summer, here and elsewhere.

New Rules Issued On Soldier Films

(Continued from page 1)

erally presented to the public in the United States, but that motion pictures, radio programs, news services and educational orientation courses originated by the Army must be "impartial and non-partisan" in their coverage of news or information of public events and affairs and persons in public life.

Department officials said that while the selection board will be continued for the purpose of selecting films to be shipped for showing to troops overseas, it will now concern itself only with the determination of whether a particular film carries sufficient entertainment value to be acceptable and no longer will have to pass on possible political propaganda.

As a result of the revision of the law, "Wilson" and "Heavenly Days," the tentative banning of which early this month focused attention on the need for relaxation of the original legislation, may now be shown to servicemen.

Review

"The Sign of the Cross"

(Paramount)

CECIL B. DEMILLE's modernization of "The Sign of the Cross," his 1932 spectacle dealing with the sadistic persecution of the Christians during Nero's wanton regime in ancient Rome, involves the addition of an 11-minute prologue depicting a U. S. Army Air Force leaflet "bombing" mission over the Eternal City and the elimination of some of the more horrible and lustful sequences of the original film. However, this unusual production's main appeal is still to the primitive emotions.

In the new prologue, a Catholic and a Protestant Army chaplain accompany the flyers as observers and discuss the history of the ancient city. The implications are that the Eternal City will survive whether it is overrun by the Nazi hordes or tyrants like Nero. As the planes head back toward Sicily in a hail of flak, the film fades into the original DeMille footage of the burning of Rome.

Being a costume piece, the lapse of almost 12 years in no way makes the film appear dated. The DeMille mastery is still evident in every frame and the Karl Struss photography compares well with today's standards. The appearance of the stars of the film, Fredric March as the prefect of Rome who falls in love with Elissa Landi, the heroic Christian girl; Claudette Colbert as the wanton empress, and Charles Laughton as the depraved emperor Nero, have changed with the years, however. For the benefit of those exhibitors who are not familiar with the story it is noted that DeMille has used a Cinderella-like story derived from a Wilson Barrett play which recounts a tender romance between the cruel, philandering prefect of Rome and an innocent girl of Christian faith, a romance which leads him to sacrifice his life to win her love. The story is projected against the background of inhumane cruelties and the debauchery that attended Nero's regime, with the persecution of budding Christianity highlighted.

Featured in the prologue are Arthur Shields, Stanley Ridges, James Millican, Tom Tully, Oliver Thorndike, William Forrest, John James and Joel Allen. The prologue was written by Dudley Nichols. DeMille directed as well as produced. The original screen play is credited to Waldemar Young and Sidney Buchman.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

Running time, 118 mins. "A"* No release date set.

*"A" denotes adult classification.

Newsreels Improve Sound Track Level

(Continued from page 1)

ards used in feature pictures. The change will be effective with the Sept. 5 issues of Paramount, Pathe, Fox Movietone, M-G-M's News of the Day and Universal reels.

The committee explained that inasmuch as newsreels have previously recorded at a much higher level than is normally used on features, theatre projectionists have been forced to reduce their fader setting by three or four steps to make the sound level acceptable to theatre conditions. Inasmuch as projectionists often went too far in reducing the fader setting, the sound presentation of the newsreel suffered, it was said.

The new recording level will make it unnecessary for projectionists to alter the sound fader setting between the feature and newsreel.

The reduced recording level also will make it possible for the newsreel to utilize the extra volume range on the film to accentuate important sound effects where necessary.

"Reminder" notices in the shipping can, or a special photographic notice on the newsreel, will be used for several succeeding issues.

Radio Mfrs. Ass'n to Meet Sept. 19-21

R. C. Cosgrove, president of the Radio Manufacturers Association, has called a meeting of the RMA board at the Roosevelt Hotel here Sept. 19-21. The immediate war program and the probable reconversion of the industry to civilian production early in 1945 are on the agenda.

Preceding the RMA board meeting and for preparation of reports and recommendations to it, there will be meetings on Sept. 19 and 20 of several RMA groups and committees. Chairman R. C. Sprague of the association's parts division has called a meeting of its executive committee and all section chairmen on Tuesday, Sept. 19. Postwar employment of returning servicemen and also other personnel problems will be considered at a meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 20, of the RMA employment and personnel committee, of which G. W. Thompson of Columbus, Ind., is chairman.

Launch 'Cross' Campaign

M-G-M's advance campaign for "The Seventh Cross" was launched yesterday. The home office reported that four-column display advertisements will appear in 70 newspapers in 36 key cities where there are Loew theatres. Advance advertising, in addition to regular cooperative campaigns, starting two weeks in advance of openings, will be a feature of the drive. Special spot radio announcements will tie in with key-city runs.

Lamont to Mexico on Mono. Dubbed Films

Jack Lamont, Monogram foreign department representative in charge of Mexico, Central America and Panama, will leave for Mexico City tomorrow to launch release of the company's program of Spanish dubbed films, and to prepare for a Mexican production program of from two to six films a year.

Monogram's Spanish dubbing program will consist of a total of 25 films for the season, with the first block to include six, as reported Aug. 7 in MOTION PICTURE DAILY. While in Mexico, Lamont will set release for the first dubbed film, "Lady, Let's Dance," in Mexico City, and will also survey the Mexican production scene, which has recently been in a chaotic state, with a view to securing studio space, lining up players and story properties. Monogram will distribute its Mexican-produced films on a world-wide basis, Lamont said. In addition, the company will dub in French and Italian.

Robinson Here from Normandy Tour

Edward G. Robinson has returned from England, where he appeared in a documentary film produced by the Royal Air Force in conjunction with the British Ministry of Information and from the Normandy beachhead, where he entertained 75,000 American troops in three weeks.

At a press interview here, Robinson stated that the picture, "Journey Together," the story of an English air crew, will be released through the MOI in England about Jan. 1.

When he left London for France 20 USO units were being prepared for Normandy and when he arrived in Normandy 20 other units were already operating. Robinson stated that films were still one of the most popular forms of entertainment for the boys. The star entertained in the ruins of St. Lo one day after the final rout there of the Germans.

Robinson plans to return to the Coast for a short stay and to begin arrangements then for a tour of the Pacific War theatre.

Theatre Taxes $107,000,000

(Continued from page 1)

mer amounted to $178,563,000 for the 1944 fiscal year against $138,054,000 for 1943 and the latter to $26,726,000 against $16,397,000.

The Internal Revenue Bureau has never segregated the taxes collected from theatres, but Government actuaries, it was learned, generally assign 60 per cent of the total to that source and the remaining 40 per cent to baseball, race tracks, circuses, carnivals and resort shows, and similar amusements.

Globe Gets 'Nights'

CHICAGO, Aug. 22.—The Globe Film Co. has acquired exclusive distribution rights in Illinois and Indiana to "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," William Farnum-Tom Santschi revival, it was reported by James N. Jovan. Deal was closed with Sack Amusement Enterprises of Dallas, owners of the negative and world rights.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 38 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1944 TEN CENTS

Approval for $400,000 Back Pay Is Started

WLB Gives First Nod on 10% Raise for Exchanges

The War Labor Board in Seattle has approved a 10 per cent wage increase for film inspectors, shippers and poster clerks in the Seattle exchanges of Paramount, Warners, RKO, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, Universal and United Artists, possibly opening the way for approval of similar increases in the 33 exchange centers, it was learned here yesterday.

The pay increase is retroactive almost 21 months to Dec. 1, 1942, and in the case of the 50-odd Seattle exchange workers currently involved, the retroactive pay is about $12,000. Approval by regional boards in the 32 other exchange cities would provide for back-pay payments by the eight com-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Films on Trains an Issue in U.S. Suit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—An agreement among 47 Western railroads to prohibit the installation and provision of various recreational facilities, including motion pictures and radios, upon their trains was cited by the Department of Justice today as one of many anti-trust law violations charged against the lines in a complaint filed in Federal District Court at Lincoln, Neb.

Also of interest to the film industry is the included allegation that the

(*Continued on page 7*)

RKO Television Has New Film Service

RKO Television Corp. is offering a film program-building service to air advertisers and television station operators to prepare film transcriptions for advertising as soon as video stations are placed in operation in the postwar.

The RKO subsidiary reports that there are now 68 applications pending before the Federal Communications Commission to build new commercial television stations. Nine stations are now operating.

U.S., British Films Can Share World Markets: Villiers

"There is sufficient room in the world markets for both British and American films," Sir Edward Villiers, representative of Ealing Studios here from London to arrange a distribution deal for Ealing films, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY in an interview yesterday.

Each country's industry has its own individual contribution to make that cannot be duplicated by the other, Villiers said. He cited "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," "Pin Up Girl" and "Cabin in the Sky" as illustrations of certain types of pictures which are essentially native to America and which could be made so much better here than in England. On the other hand he mentioned "Pygmalion," "Henry the Eighth," "Cavalcade" as types of films which Hollywood could not produce.

Villiers admited that Hollywood was

(*Continued on page 7*)

Para. Will Resume British Filming

Paramount will resume production in England, in addition to its pending British production by Hal Wallis. Besides satisfying England's quota requirements, the Paramount films will be geared to the world market, John W. Hicks, the company's vice-president and foreign manager, reveals here. Representative of these pictures is Paramount's "French Without Tears," Hicks said.

Plans for Paramount's British pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

12-16 Price Cut Starts Tomorrow

Youngsters between 12 and 16 years will be admitted to local theatres for children's prices, plus adult tax rates, beginning tomorrow at most houses, it was decided yesterday by circuit operators following solution of the problem of what kind of tickets to use. Extra printing will be avoided by giving each teen-ager a child's ticket and also a separate adult tax ticket of the type now used for passes that are not tax free.

Scale Up 40%, Business, 32%

CHICAGO, Aug. 23. — Loop theatres now have increased admissions, tilted up to 40 per cent. Most neighborhood houses, however, have not changed.

When the 20 per cent Federal tax came into effect, last spring, first runs started moving up their price top from 75 cents to 95 cents, and raised the scale correspondingly for morning and afternoon hours. Regardless, first-run business has increased an average of 30 per cent weekly compared to a corresponding period in 1943.

The price situation is different in the neighborhoods, however, where the average exhibitor must build a neighborhood trade and fears resentment due to price increases. But where transient trade in some neighborhoods represents a good percentage

(*Continued on page 7*)

Unexpected Improvement In Raw Film Situation

Indications that the Office of War Information and other Government war agencies will use less raw stock during the current quarter than had previously been estimated is understood to have given the 11 film companies some 12,000,000 additional feet of film to meet current needs. Further, the companies have been working on reductions of estimates since last Monday on film needed and now must cut only 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 feet instead of the 45,000,000 estimated then, to meet the War Production Board "suggestions" for curtailment of 20 per cent in raw stock during the current quarter.

The 11 companies will have some 300,000,000 feet available during the quarter instead of the 288,000,000 feet previously indicated.

Curtailments in the use of stock for the War Activities Committee-OWI shorts, and Government film messages are understood to have been affected to help the critical raw stock situation. It is also understood that Eastman and DuPont are now in a position to provide additional raw stock as a result of the WPB's survey of film needs of Government agencies and the Armed Forces.

Producers on Air Against Rental Terms

Pickford, Disney Join Goldwyn in Reno Fight

RENO, Aug. 23.—Members of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers carried directly to the public here last night their battle against alleged monopolistic practices, with Mary Pickford, as pokesman for the group, taking to the air over radio station KOE here in connection with the local premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's "Up in Arms" in Tony Percetti's El Patio Ballroom, after Goldwyn and T. and D. Theatres could not come to terms for showing of the film at one of the circuit's five Reno theatres. Others joining in the fight here were: Walt Disney, Orson Welles, William and James Cagney and John C. Flinn, SIMPP executive secretary.

Miss Pickford said: "When Sam Goldwyn called me, I dropped all my

(*Continued on page 7*)

Anti-Defamation Rally Here Sept. 7

An "Anti-Defamation Day" rally and buffet luncheon will be held on the New Amsterdam Theatre Roof here on Sept. 7 under sponsorship of the amusement and allied industries, it was announced yesterday by an arrangements committee comprised of Barney Balaban, Harry Brandt, Max Cohen and Nate B. Spingold.

Industry employes will be asked to sign cards pledging their support of "Anti-Defamation Day" as well as their presence at the rally.

Among those who have also accepted

(*Continued on page 7*)

Monogram Delivers All for '44, Plus 1

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 23.—With the completion of "Law of the Valley," starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hattan, and "Frontier Frameup," with Hoot Gibson and Bob Steele, Monogram has finished its entire program for 1943-44.

The company points out that the number of pictures delivered for the year actually exceeds by one the total promised at the opening of the season. The schedule carried 25 features, 16 Westerns and two specials for a total of 43.

Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS will leave tomorrow or Saturday for conferences at the 20th Century-Fox Coast studios.

•

DAVID H. COPLAN, United Artists managing director in Great Britain, who arrived here from London Tuesday, left for Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto last night and is expected to return to New York next Tuesday.

•

MIKE SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's sales publication, *The Distributor,* is on a business trip to Detroit, Milwaukee and Minneapolis. He is due back Monday.

•

THOMAS BAIRD, director of the British Ministry of Information in this country, has returned to New York from Hollywood and will leave shortly for London.

•

FLOYD STONE, *Motion Picture Herald* photographer-reporter, and MRS. STONE left this morning for three weeks at Cape Ann, Mass., and Mount Washington, N. H.

•

GEORGE ROSING of Shea's Roosevelt Theatre, Buffalo, became a grandfather for the second time this week with the birth of a son, TERRY MERLE, to MR. and MRS. WARREN ROSING.

•

MARCIA ESKIN, daughter of HAROLD F. ESKIN, of Eskin Amusement Co. here, became engaged to ARTHUR KATZ at a reception held recently at the Pierre Roof.

•

EDWARD SCHNITZER, United Artists home office executive, left here yesterday on a three-day business trip to Toronto.

•

WILLIAM S. SHARTIN, New Haven branch manager for United Artists, is here conferring with CARL LESERMAN of United Artists.

•

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn, has left for a one-week business ness trip to Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

MARTN F. BENNETT, head of Warners' sound department, will spend today and tomorrow in Chicago and return Saturday to New York.

•

J. J. UNGER, United Artists' Western division manager, is in Salt Lake City en route to New York.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M's circuit sales head, left here yesterday on a six weeks' exchange tour.

•

L. J. SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox home office executive, was in Chicago this week.

•

SID ROSE, United Artists branch manager in Chicago, will return there from his vacation on Monday.

Theatres Urged to Prepare for V-Day

Independent and affiliated theatres included in the 800 members of the Broadway Association here have been warned to "remove large display advertising material from their lobbies as well as from theatre exteriors" and to "clear aisles and lobbies accessible from the street of all surplus furnishings" on V-Day. Another suggestion to theatres is the display of American and Allied Nations' flags.

Theatrical Committee Formed for Roosevelt

More than 600 writers, artists, scientists, educators, musicians and from films, radio and theatrical fields yesterday launched a campaign for the re-election of President Roosevelt, at a sponsors' reception marking the official opening of Hotel Astor headquarters of the Independent Voters Committee of the Arts and Sciences for Roosevelt. Jo Davidson, sculptor, is chairman of the group. Fredric March is treasurer.

Among members of the Committee are: Tallulah Bankhead, Harry Brandt, J. Edward Bromberg, Eddie Cantor, Norman Corwin, Bette Davis, Agnes George de Mille, Howard Dietz, John Garfield, John Golden, Abel Green, George Jessel, Eddie Nugent, Paul Robeson, Herman Shumlin, Gloria Stuart, Michael Todd and others.

Mickey Rooney, Inc. May Buy Steel Pier

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 23.—Although long rumored, it became known today that Mickey Rooney has incorporated Rooney, Inc., under Nevada laws. Associated with him are Morton Briskin, Los Angeles attorney, and Sam Stiefel, Philadelphia exhibitor.

Stiefel, Abbott and Costello and the latter's manager, Eddie Sherman, have been linked with Rooney in syndicate negotiations for the purchase of the steel pier in Atlantic City, but a spokesman for Sherman denies any such deal involving Sherman, at least, and adds Rooney, Inc., was formed for another, but undisclosed, purpose. The new company evidently has no bearing on Rooney's M-G-M relationship, the studio declaring it has three years more under their current contract.

Refuses Reopening of Cummings Case

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 23.—Universal's motion to reopen the case of Robert Cummings, director, who recently sued for abrogation of his contract, was denied yesterday by Judge Harry A. Hollzer.

The court ruled that Cummings is a free agent and Universal accepted the decision as it was handed down to clear the way for the case to go to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Panama Business Up 35%, Says Smith

Business in Panama has increased more than 35 per cent over pre-war years, while a rise of 25 per cent has been registered in the rest of his territory, Guy Croswell Smith, United Artists manager for the Canal Zone, Central America, Venezuela and Ecuador, discloses. Smith's territory embraces 11 countries, has 15,000,000 persons and about 500 theatres. His headquarters are in Cristobal, Canal Zone.

Panama's 65 theatres are enjoying a wartime boom because of the influx of U. S. troops and defense activities, Smith said.

The public in the territory is manifesting an increased interest in Spanish-language films, Smith disclosed, especially Mexican. Previously American films had 90 per cent of the market, with Spanish product getting only 10 per cent, but in the capital cities, American films now secure only 65 per cent of the playing time and in the interior it has declined to less than 50 per cent with the exception of Panama, where English is spoken extensively.

Up to the present, UA's Canal Zone manager said, theatres have not seen any Class A American pictures with Spanish dubbing, and, therefore, their effect is problematical. Mexican films are creating new theatregoeres, he said. In first-run situations, however, exhibitors say they prefer super-imposed titles to dubbed product, basing their opinion on poorly-dubbed product previously distributed there.

Smith will leave for Cristobal this week, winding up a visit of several weeks.

New Realignments For RKO Mgrs.

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 23.—Nat Holt, RKO Coast theatre division manager and liaison between the studio and theatres, today severed his theatre connections to become associate producer and assistant to Jack Gross at RKO. No theatre replacement for Holt has yet been made but the new appointment brings the following realignments:

Andy Anderson continues as Los Angeles city manager, Cliff Giessman continues as manager of the Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco, and is responsible directly to New York. The supervision of the Denver office has been transferred to Frank Smith with headquarters in Chicago.

Sneak Preview for 'Lost in a Harem'

M-G-M was host to the trade press here last night at a dinner at Toots Shor's followed by a screening of the Abbott and Costello feature, "Lost in a Harem," at Loew's Ziegfeld Theatre. Among company representatives present were the following: William F. Rodgers, E. K. O'Shea, E. W. Aaron, Maurice Goldstein, William Ferguson, Si Seadler, Lester Isaacs, Nan Cohen, Seymour Mayer, Jessie Faye and William Ornstein.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 23

STUART ERWIN will return to the Warner studios and will appear with John Garfield in "Nobody Lives Forever." Erwin has been in the stage play, "Good Night, Ladies," in Chicago. Ruth Donnelly has also been assigned a role in this feature. Jean Negulesco will direct and Robert Buckner will produce.

•

Jerry Bresler, general manager of the M-G-M shorts production department, was assigned "Telltale Winds" as his first full length feature. His successor as yet is undetermined.

•

20th-Fox indicated its intention to produce "Rickenbacker" and assigned Lloyd Bacon to direct the feature, and James Cady and John Tucker Battle to write the screenplay.

•

Capt. Matty Fox will leave for New York Friday, resuming his duties which probably will take him overseas.

•

Sol Schwartz, head of RKO Western theatres, will leave for New York on Saturday.

•

Charles Reed Jones of Republic Pictures entrains for New York on Saturday.

Court Order Reopens Grande Theatre Case

The case against Sanfrebob Theatre Corp. and Nathan Steinberg, owner and operator of the Grande Theatre here, charged by Universal and Loew's with playing three films more often than specified by contract, has been reopened by a New York Federal District Court order sustaining the defendants' motion to vacate a default judgment entered against them by the companies. The pictures in question were Universal's "You're a Sweetheart" and M-G-M's "Tortilla Flat" and "San Francisco."

'Casanova Brown's' 1st Day 'Frisco Record

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—"Casanova Brown," playing the first theatre engagement in the nation, established an opening day record here at the Golden Gate Theatre today, doing between $5,200 and $5,500 on the day.

WB Films for France

Warner Bros. has turned over to U. S. officials French-dubbed prints of "Sergeant York" and "All This and Heaven Too" for immediate showing to civilians in the liberated areas of France, in what is claimed to be the first American films thus scheduled.

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Jack L. Warner
Executive Producer

U.S., British Films Can Share World Markets: Villiers

(Continued from page 1)

ahead of the British industry in technical excellence and also in the more direct and purposeful way in which it attacked production problems such as the securing of talent and other personnel. "It is only fair to remember, however," Villiers said, "the tremendous difficulties against which British producers are fighting day and night. Shortage of equipment, worn out material, a grave shortage of personnel of all kinds—to say nothing of the unwelcome and noisy presence of flybombs."

Pooling British Production

The Ealing representative, who is also here to survey American distribution requirements for British product, said: "It might be the council of perfection if British producers were to pool their best pictures for export. I believe tentative proposals have been considered for this. But I do not think anything will come of it. Be this as it may, Ealing proposes to export only its best product." He said Ealing was prepared to send its pictures here and permit a certain amount of re-editing in order to make them conform more closely to American tempo, provided the basic structure and story of the film is not altered. Further, Villiers said, Ealing was prepared to agree to a certain amount of sound re-recording in order, where necessary, to make dialogue more intelligible to the American public.

Villiers thinks Ealing would certainly be prepared to consider a joint production-distribution deal with an American company. Ealing, he said, was in no need of additional finance. This was taken care of under an existing arrangement with Stephen Courtauld in the background and Reginald Baker and Michael Balcon.

Focus on World Markets

Villiers said that Ealing intended in future to pay greater attention to world markets and was already dubbing in some foreign languages.

Villiers said that the doctrine, held by some British producers, that only big-budget pictures could compete in world markets was not necessarily true. "High negative cost is not the only criterion of a good pictures," he said. Ealing studios are not making any war pictures now, Villiers said. They are devoting 80 of their films to straight entertainment.

Villiers intends going to Toronto to attend the premiere on Aug. 31 of "San Demetrio—London," which 20th Century-Fox is releasing here.

Villiers hopes to see some American product with a view to acquiring it for Ealing to distribute in England, and also possibly some Mexican films.

When questioned about the British industry's difficulties, Sir Edward said he believed that wherever and whenever possible commercial difficulties should be ironed out by the industry itself. But however desirable this might be, it was not always possible in practice. He believes the British government has become film-minded as never before and is determined that, come what may, either with or without its help, British films must find their ranking place on the world's markets.

Producers Take to Air in Fight on Rental Terms

(Continued from page 1)

personal business in order to be here tonight, knowing full well the vital importance of this issue. To produce "Up in Arms" Goldwyn spent $2,500,000, only to be told that he shall not be permitted to show it except as dictated by a monopoly. The issue is not whether this one or a dozen of Goldwyn's pictures do or do not play Reno. It is rather the question of whether he and I and other Americans are to be given the opportunity to carry on our lives and our business openly, honestly and fairly," she continued.

Disney Endorses Goldwyn

A wire to Goldwyn from Disney, read by Miss Pickford, endorsed the producers fight and added: "When the channels through which motion pictures reach the public are restricted or blocked, it behooves all of us who are charged with responsibility to the public for the industry to break down the barriers. Impending world competition, which will be based on low costs and fostered by foreign governmental endowments, franchises, tariffs and quotas, makes it imperative that our American production, at least in our own country, be permitted to operate without artificial obstacles being thrown in its path by selfish interests."

Mary Pickford's Broadcast

Miss Pickford's broadcast took place before the opening night audience at the El Patio, which Percetti had converted from a ballroom into a theatre after several obstacles during the past few weeks. When building code enforcement officials demanded a fire-proof projection booth, he countered by obtaining a permit to install a temporary booth on the sidewalk and point the light shaft in through a window. When T. and D. protested on grounds of sidewalk blockage, Percetti moved his equipment indoors and appealed to Goldwyn for specially-treated acetate film, similar to that used in home projectors. Yesterday afternoon, with Miss Pickford and a score of other stars participating in the ceremony, Goldwyn drove the last spike that fastened the 400th chair to the floor.

While industry forces watched the outcome of Goldwyn's "invasion" and the story was given considerable attention by newspaper press wire service, a controversy arose as to the terms under which "Up in Arms" had been offered to T and D and rejected. Goldwyn said, "Reno is typical of the 'squeeze' by which many theatre units, large and small, deprive independent producers of their rightful share of boxoffice dollars."

R. A. McNeil's Statement

R. A. McNeil, executive of T. and D., said: "Regardless of Goldwyn's statement to the contrary, we agreed to show "Up in Arms" in Reno at his terms. We will be pleased to exhibit Goldwyn pictures on a live-and-let-live basis."

N. D. Thompson, T. and D. district manager here, said: "The reason the picture is not shown in the T. and D. theatre is not that we refused to buy it but rather that Goldwyn refused to sell it for a showing in Reno unless we bought it for all of our theatres."

In New York yesterday, a spokesman for RKO, which distributes Goldwyn films, explained that the quarrel actually involved the terms for showing "Up in Arms" in San Francisco. There, he said, Goldwyn had demanded a percentage basis, but the circuit was holding out for a flat rate, similar to that granted on "The North Star." For cities outside San Francisco, including Reno, the circuit was willing to continue paying on percentage terms, as in the past, it was reported.

Although RKO handles distribution for Goldwyn, he retains the right to approve or reject that company's contracts with theatres. The same is true of other SIMPP producers, most of whom are associated with circuit affiliated distributors. In addition to those taking part in the Reno demonstration, the SIMPP includes: Loyd Wright, Charles E. Milliken, Roy O. Disney, David O. Selznick, Walter F. Wanger, Charles Chaplin, Alexander Korda, Sol Lesser and Hunt Stromberg.

Scales Raised 40%, Business Up 32%

(Continued from page 1)

of the weekly attendance, admissions have been bosted about 10 per cent.

In June, 1943, first-run houses here had an admission range of from 35 to 75 cents. The scale moved up to 40 to 85 cents by December and now is 50 to 95 cents. The estimated gross total in first run houses in the Loop during June, 1943, was $135,000 weekly. Last month the weekly gross was over $200,000, an increase of 32½ per cent.

GPE Dividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment Corp. have voted a dividend of 25 cents per share on the company's capital stock, payable Sept. 15 to stockholders of record Sept. 2. The same amount was paid on June 15.

Para. Will Resume British Filming

(Continued from page 1)

duction were finalized at conferences here last week between Wallis, Hicks, Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and David Rose, the company's British manager.

"We are going to take each individual foreign distribution situation," said Hicks in speaking of the company's foreign operations in the postwar," and start with a clean slate. We may decide in some countries where we operated before, to sell our product. When the time comes, if it is necessary, we will dub in French and Italian in order to compete in these markets," said Hicks. "We will have a full supply of dubbed pictures." Spanish dubbing plans, he added, depend on how this type of product is received in the Latin-American countries.

Approval for $400,000 Back Pay Is Started

(Continued from page 1)

panies of some $400,000 for the 2,000-odd workers affected.

The IATSE service employes' union which represents the workers in Seattle is one of 15 such locals which have indicated an intention to file with the regional WLBs in their districts for approval of similar 10 per cent increases which the distributors are said to be willing to grant. It is expected that the other locals will now file in view of the Seattle action by the regional board in Seattle in approving the increase.

Test Application Filed

The distributors and the IATSE have been negotiating the increase since July, 1943. A test application was originally filed with the regional WLB in Philadelphia on behalf of the service employes in Loew's Washington exchange, after the War Stabilization Director's office had refused authorization to grant the increase. After the regional WLB in Philadelphia turned down the increase, earlier this year, an appeal was taken to the WLB in Washington.

Wage scales for exchange service workers are not uniform throughout the country; in Seattle, where scales are considered average, the scales prior to the increase ranged from $21.50 for film inspectors to $37.50 for head shippers.

As previously reported, IATSE exchange service unions in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Denver, Los Angeles, Boston, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Detroit, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New Haven, Dallas and Chicago plan to file with regional boards in their areas for authorization of the increase, with others to follow.

Anti-Defamation Rally Here Sept. 7

(Continued from page 1)

invitations to serve on the committee are Jack Cohn, Simon H. Fabian, Abe Schneider, Louis Frisch, George Dembow, Robert Weitman, Budd Rogers, "Chick" Lewis, Sam Shain, David Wolper, Harry Kalmine, Leopold Friedman, Arthur Israel, Harold Mirisch, Alec Moss, Manie Sacks, Adolph Schimel, Si Seadler, Max Seligman and Sam Tulpan.

Films on Trains an Issue in U. S. Suit

(Continued from page 1)

railroads, by collusive and illegal action, have maintained freight rates for the Western part of the U. S. which are higher than those for shippers in the East and that this inequality has deprived the West of low competitive rates.

Co-defendants with the individual lines are the Association of American Railroads, the Western Association of Railway Executives, J. P. Morgan and Co., and Kuhn, Loeb and Co.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5007)	**(Seventh Block)** ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427) TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)		**(Fifth Block)** AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321) DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325) THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323) HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322) GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Dave O'Brien O—61 mins. (458) MINSTREL MAN Benny Fields Gladys George D—69 mins. (404)	SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (344) BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45) GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322) PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.	(July Releases—no definite date set) ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431) HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color) CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe C—80 mins.	ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	
Aug. 5	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. (5027) SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D—(5026)		WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)								MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 12	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C—(5012)								(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	
Aug. 19	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)			SING, NEIGHBOR, SING! Brad Taylor M—70 mins. (401) (1944-'45) SAN ANTONIO KID O—56 mins. (3313) (1944-'45)	A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428) STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429)			IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Aug. 26	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—(5002)	**(Eighth Block)** (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color) CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O		MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida El Brendel C—(421) DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford M—72 mins. (505) (1944-45)		YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	**(First Block, 1944-'45)** (August Releases)			JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C		OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	**(Sixth Block)** HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill D—(513) (1944-45)		(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)		GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins.	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M—(509) (1944-45)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45) SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)		MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	**(Ninth Block)** (incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)		**(Seventh Block)** THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431) BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	**(Second Block, 1944-'45)** (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503) GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D		SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D		GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(551) (1944-'45)					PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—(1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Raymond Massey D (1944-'45)
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D									SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—(1944-'45)	
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins.	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)						THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(1944-'45)

$11,000 Over for 'I Love Soldier'

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—"I Love Soldier" led the field here with a mashing $39,000 at the Fox. With a an Francisco locale, the film got some ood advance notices in the daily press.

Estimated receipts for the week end-ng Aug. 22-24:

In Society" (Univ.)
Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, id week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,000).
Step Lively" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 ays, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: 32,000. (Average: $27,000).
They Made Me a Criminal" (WB)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. tage: vaudeville. Gross: $33,000. (Average: 5,000).
I Love A Soldier" (Para.)
Black Magic"
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: 9,000. (Average: $28,000).
The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
Goodnight, Sweetheart" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 ays. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).
The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
Crime By Night" (WB)
STATE — (2,300) (45c-65c-70c) 7 days, ioveover from the Fox. Gross: $11,000. Average: $13,000).
Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS — (1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 ays, 2nd week, moveover after four weeks t the Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: 1,000).
Sensations of 1945" (UA)
South of Dixie" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) days, 4th week. Gross: $8,100. (Average: 1,000).

Atlantic' Cut for White' Theatres

MEMPHIS, Aug. 23.—All ssequences howing Negro performers in Repub-c's "Atlantic City," have been ordered eleted here by the local censor board, was reported by Norman J. Colqu-oun, Republic branch manager, fol-owing a screening held for Lloyd inford, censor chairman. Colquhoun tated that Binford will allow the big Negro scene" to remain for show-ng in Beale St. Negro theatres but rdered it removed for 'White' houses.

Binford also stated that "hence-orth any film with Negro perform-rs" will be excluded from 'White' heatres. The censor board here has ecently been campaigning against Negro entertainers in motion pic-ures. Among films banned entirely as United Artists' "Sensations of 944."

Blue Names Searle Western Manager

Don Searle, manager of radio station GO, San Francisco, has been named eneral manager of the Blue Net-ork's Western division, it was re-orted here yesterday by Mark Woods, resident.

With the network 18 months, Searle ormerly operated stations in Omaha, opeka and Lincoln. He is presently art owner of a station at Grand sland and one in Wichita. Wood also evealed that the next move in rengthening Pacific Coast operations ill be the appointment of a Pacific oast vice-president to succeed Don . Gilman, who resigned this week.

onor of his late father.

Sam Wheeler is chairman of the ond sales committee, assisted by Al hreman who handled arrangements or the naming of the ship.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



THE AIR WAVES ARE RIPPLING FOR "OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY" FROM COAST TO COAST AS DIANA LYNN, CO-STARRED WITH GAIL RUSSELL IN PARAMOUNT'S PICTURIZATION OF THE NATIONAL BEST SELLER, CONTINUES RADIO BUILDUP FOR THE FILM.... APPEARANCE SUNDAY NIGHT, 6 P.M., E.W.T., ON FAMED "SILVER THEATRE" SHOW OVER CBS.... WILL CLIMAX SERIES OF PLUGS ON TEXACO AND CHESTERFIELD AIR SHOWS... WITH MORE BIG RADIO SHOTS TO COME... WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

$68,000 for 'Dragon' at Three in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 23.—First runs here again demonstrate that important pictures will get important money. "Dragon Seed," off to a three-ply first run at the Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz, did an estimated $68,000 at the three houses in its first week of an extended run. "Wilson" captured $40,500 in the second week of its two day-and date runs at the Carthay Circle and United Artists, while "Going My Way," repeating the phenomenal course established in other key cities, was good for $51,000 combined at the Paramount theatres downtown and in Hollywood. Weather was hot during the day and a bit on the coolish side at night.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE — (1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,200).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,500).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN — (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $9,500).
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,700).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $14,900).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $8,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $16,600).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $10,500).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,975. (Average: $17,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,886. (Average: $18,700).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,642. (Average: $15,200).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
FOX-WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,750).

Sterling Leaves Artkino

Philip Sterling, publicity director for Artkino, distributor of Soviet films here, has resigned, effective immediately, to become managing director of Picture News Features, a publisher's service representing photographers.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
July 29	MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR E. G. Robinson Ted Donaldson Ruth Warrick D—80 mins. (5007)	**(Seventh Block)** ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424)		**(Fifth Block)** AND THE ANGELS SING Dorothy Lamour Fred MacMurray Betty Hutton M—96 mins. (4321)	BRAND OF THE DEVIL James Newill Dave O'Brien O—61 mins. (458)	SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (344)	(Special release) ATTACK! (Documentary) 56 mins.	(July Releases—no definite date set)	ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS William Bendix Dennis O'Keefe C—80 mins.	ALLERGIC TO LOVE Noah Beery, Jr. Martha O'Driscoll C—65 mins. (8040)	
Aug. 5	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. (5027) SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D—(5026)	GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426)	WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)	DOUBLE INDEMNITY Fred MacMurray Barbara Stanwyck Edward G. Robinson D—106 mins. (4325)	SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH Chick Chandler June Clyde D—60 mins. (417)	BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45) GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322) PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324)	**(Sixth Block)** GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426)	ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)			MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 12	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C—(5012)	THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427) TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)		THE HITLER GANG Robert Watson Victor Varconi D—100 mins. (4323)	DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	SING, NEIGHBOR, SING! Brad Taylor M—70 mins. (401) (1944-'45)	MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427)	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)	(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	
Aug. 19	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	HENRY ALDRICH PLAYS CUPID Jimmy Lydon Diana Lynn Charles Smith 65 mins. (4322)	MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida El Brendel C—(421)	SAN ANTONIO KID O—56 mins. (3313) (1944-'45)	A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)		IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Aug. 26	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—(5002)	**(Eighth Block)** (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O	GAMBLER'S CHOICE Chester Morris Nancy Kelly 66 mins. (4324)	DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford M—72 mins. (505) (1944-45)		YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	**(First Block, 1944-'45)** (August Releases)			JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C	CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	**(Sixth Block)** HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill D—(513) (1944-45)		(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)			GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins.	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M—(509) (1944-45)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45)	WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)			MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	**(Ninth Block)** (incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins.	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)	SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)			THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(551) (1944-'45)		**(Seventh Block)** THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	**(Second Block, 1944-'45)** (Sept. Releases)		PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—(1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Raymond Massey D (1944-'45)
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins.		I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)			BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432) MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503) GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)			SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—(1944-'45)	
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins.	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)						THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(1944-'45)

$11,000 Over for 'I Love Soldier'

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 23.—"I Love Soldier" led the field here with a smashing $39,000 at the Fox. With a San Francisco locale, the film got some good advance notices in the daily press.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 22-24:

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $27,000).
"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $25,000).
"I Love A Soldier" (Para.)
"Black Magic"
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $28,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
"Goodnight, Sweetheart" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
STATE—(2,300) (45c-65c-70c) 7 days, moveover from the Fox. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover after four weeks at the Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $11,000).

'Atlantic' Cut for 'White' Theatres

MEMPHIS, Aug. 23.—All sequences showing Negro performers in Republic's "Atlantic City," have been ordered deleted here by the local censor board, it was reported by Norman J. Colquoun, Republic branch manager, following a screening held for Lloyd Binford, censor chairman. Colquhoun stated that Binford will allow the "big Negro scene" to remain for showing in Beale St. Negro theatres but ordered it removed for 'White' houses.

Binford also stated that "henceforth any film with Negro performers" will be excluded from 'White' theatres. The censor board here has recently been campaigning against Negro entertainers in motion pictures. Among films banned entirely was United Artists' "Sensations of 1944."

Blue Names Searle Western Manager

Don Searle, manager of radio station KGO, San Francisco, has been named general manager of the Blue Network's Western division, it was reported here yesterday by Mark Woods, president.

With the network 18 months, Searle formerly operated stations in Omaha, Topeka and Lincoln. He is presently part owner of a station at Grand Island and one in Wichita. Wood also revealed that the next move in strengthening Pacific Coast operations will be the appointment of a Pacific Coast vice-president to succeed Don D. Gilman, who resigned this week.

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honor of his late father.

Sam Wheeler is chairman of the bond sales committee, assisted by Al Shreman who handled arrangements for the naming of the ship.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



THE AIR WAVES ARE RIPPLING FOR **"OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY"** FROM COAST TO COAST AS DIANA LYNN, CO-STARRED WITH GAIL RUSSELL IN PARAMOUNT'S PICTURIZATION OF THE NATIONAL BEST SELLER, CONTINUES RADIO BUILDUP FOR THE FILM.... APPEARANCE SUNDAY NIGHT, 6 P.M., E.W.T., ON FAMED "SILVER THEATRE" SHOW OVER CBS.... WILL CLIMAX SERIES OF PLUGS ON TEXACO AND CHESTERFIELD AIR SHOWS... WITH MORE BIG RADIO SHOTS TO COME... WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

$68,000 for 'Dragon' at Three in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 23.—First runs here again demonstrate that important pictures will get important money. "Dragon Seed," off to a three-ply first run at the Egyptian, Los Angeles and Ritz, did an estimated $68,000 at the three houses in its first week of an extended run. "Wilson" captured $40,500 in the second week of its two day-and date runs at the Carthay Circle and United Artists, while "Going My Way," repeating the phenomenal course established in other key cities, was good for $51,000 combined at the Paramount theatres downtown and in Hollywood. Weather was hot during the day and a bit on the coolish side at night.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,200).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,500).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $9,500).
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,200).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,700).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $14,900).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $8,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $16,600).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average: $10,500).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,975. (Average: $17,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,886. (Average: $18,700).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,642. (Average: $15,200).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
FOX-WILSHIRE—(2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,750).

Sterling Leaves Artkino

Philip Sterling, publicity director for Artkino, distributor of Soviet films here, has resigned, effective immediately, to become managing director of Picture News Features, a publisher's service representing photographers.

"ON STAGE EVERYBODY!"

The Blue Network's Sensational Opportunity Show now opens even wider the doors to Fame and Fortune for Radio and Screen "Big Names" of tomorrow through a

GREAT 26-WEEK CONTEST

EVER since the Blue Network Company was formed, it has been the *opportunity* network for radio artists. One important contribution has been the program, "On Stage Everybody!", which during the last 30 weeks has provided opportunity for countless professional singers, actors, and other artists to air their talents coast to coast.

Beginning October 7th, "On Stage Everybody!" proposes to give aspiring talent an even more profitable opportunity by staging a unique 26-week contest which offers the winners opportunity not only in radio but on the screen as well!

HERE IS HOW THE CONTEST WILL OPERATE:

1. Each week for 26 weeks, "On Stage Everybody!" will present a group of "acts" . . . carefully and impartially auditioned from professional talent.

2. The ten most talented acts will be given contracts to appear in the full-length picture, "On Stage Everybody!", to be produced by Universal Pictures, one of Hollywood's top five studios.

3. All professional talent is eligible. Anyone desiring to enter this contest should contact the Blue Network's Program Department for complete details.

"On Stage Everybody!" emphasizes the Blue Network's policy that radio must discover and develop talent of its own. We believe that this new contest feature of "On Stage Everybody!" is an even bigger step in the right direction.

"ON STAGE EVERYBODY!" is for sale!

The inherent commercial strength of this program, combined with the possibilities of the contest feature, provide an unusual vehicle for the alert advertiser. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: *Blue Program Sales or National Concert and Artists Corporation.*

The Blue Network

AMERICAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC.

Sept. 23	Sept. 30	Oct. 7

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 39 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

Rank Still Has Hopes of UA Deal in U. S.

Plans Study of U. S. Film Standards

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Aug. 24.—J. Arthur Rank, in an exclusive interview here today, stated flatly that he still has hopes of consummating a deal with United Artists for distribution of some 10 of his and Two Cities films in the United States.

Rank stated that he and Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president and distribution head recently returned to New York, "hammered out agreements, the basis of which demand amplification and ratification by UA in New York," hence the trip of Rank's emissaries Barrington C. Gain and

(*Continued on page* 11)

Asks $100,000 Damages

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Aug. 24.—After conferences here today, Attorney Robert P. Hudson left for Tulsa where he will file, tomorrow, a new anti-trust complaint against the Griffith Amusement interests and 10 distributors on behalf of J. D. Weinland of Picher, Oklahoma. Hudson said he will ask $100,000 damages and an injunction against alleged monopolistic practices.

Hudson conferred here with James Blakeney, Jr., who has prosecuted prevous actions against Griffith et al. Hudson said the distributors cited

(*Continued on page* 7)

Honor John Harris With $100,000 Gift

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The local Variety Club will pay tribute to John H. Harris, theatre executive and founder of the Variety Club of America, through the purchase of $100,000 in war bonds to help equip the Liberty Ship, "John P. Harris," named in honor of his late father.

Sam Wheeler is chairman of the bond sales committee, assisted by Al Shreman who handled arrangements for the naming of the ship.

Films Riding with Advancing Troops

Washington, Aug. 24.—The Red Cross Motion Picture Service is operating in France on the heels of our advancing troops, it was announced today by the American Red Cross here.

Seven Red Cross mobile-theatres have been attached to 'Clubmobiles' which are traveling behind the lines to serve coffee and doughnuts to men on the march. Each "Cinemobile" is equipped with a projector, phonograph, loud speaker system, generator and piano, and stage a film or talent show at any opportunity.

12 'B' Films For 20th-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—Twentieth Century-Fox will not abandon "B" features next season after all. It is learned here authoritatively that the company will make a dozen such films, thereby increasing to 39

(*Continued on page* 7)

20th-Fox Net: $6,338,433 For 26 Weeks

Twenty-six weeks' profit of $6,338,433, after all charges, was reported yesterday by 20th Century-Fox, Spyros Skouras, president for the period ending June 24. Earnings reflected, for the first time, the company's full-share interests in National Theatres Corp.; Roxy Theatre, Inc., earnings were also included.



Spyros Skouras

After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stock, the $6,338,433 net equalled $3.12 a share on the 1,742,006 shares of common stock outstanding.

Net profit reported for the same 26 weeks of 1943, not including National Theatres and the Roxy Theatre, was $3,843,249, equal, after deducting dividends on the convertible preferred

(*Continued on page* 7)

Extended Runs Bring New Product Jam

10-Week Wait for Some N. Y. First-Run Outlets

The Metropolitan New York first-run situation, which had eased in recent months, after being tight last Spring, is again causing a product jam and most distributors are now hard-pressed for theatres to exhibit their first-run films.

Distributors lacking regular first-run Broadway outlets report that they cannot secure an available theatre for current releases for almost 10 weeks and the situation will become even more acute in view of extended holdovers. The ensuing delay in the clearance of new

(*Continued on page* 7)

$31,343,730, New Tax High

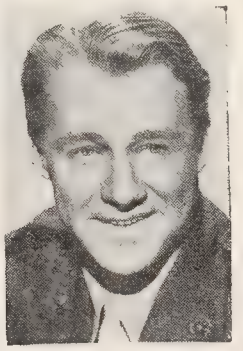
WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—The Treasury's admission tax revenue reached a new high in July at $31,343,730, a $5,000,000 increase over the $26,240,195 in June and nearly double the $15,750,519 in July, 1943, it was reported here tonight by the Internal Revenue Bureau.

July collections brought the total for the first seven months of 1944 to $144,841,051—within $2,000,000 of the annual revenue from this source as recently as 1942—against $89,688,992 for the corresponding period last year. Revenue for the full fiscal year ending

(*Continued on page* 7)

Tufts No. 1 in Theatres' 'Stars of Tomorrow' Poll

Sonny Tufts, six-foot-four-inch actor who appeared in "So Proudly We Hail" and "Government Girl," is the first choice of both circuit and independent exhibitors for elevation to stardom, it is reported in *Motion Picture Herald's* fourth annual "Stars of Tomorrow" poll, published today.



Sonny Tufts

Runners-up in the combined vote, in the order named, are: James Craig, Gloria de Haven, Roddy McDowall, June Allyson, Barry Fitzgerald, Marsha Hunt, Sydney Greenstreet, Turhan Bey and Helmut Dantine, with the circuit exhibitors including Robert Ryan in their first ten in place of Dantine and the

(*Continued on page* 12)

236 Features Are Finished or in Work

Hollywood, Aug. 24.—Even before 1944-45 formally gets under way, on Sept. 11, 11 companies have 236 features either finished or in work. In a number of cases, release dates have been set, assuring films so characterized as definite for the new season.

Aside from Paramount and Warners, virtually all of the product appears destined for 1944-45. In the case of these two, conclusions cannot be reached as to what films will be drawn from their pool, or when. Both are pursuing a policy of restricted numbers of releases.

The 11 companies are committed to between 462 to 479 features for 1944-45.

OWI Reports on the Nazi Film Industry

Despite severe shortages of actors, technicians, materials and equipment, the German film industry, centered now in five producing companies and operating under the control of Paul Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda, produced 190 feature films, a large percentage in color, last year, it was learned here yesterday from the U. S. Office of War Information. First insight into the German industry to be

(*Continued on page* 12)

Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, left last night for San Francisco and Hollywood.

•

LOUISE FARRELL, secretary to JAMES J. MURPHY, Jr., assistant executive director of the motion picture branch of the American Arbitration Association, will leave at the weekend for a two-week vacation.

•

OSCAR A. MORGAN, Paramount short subject sales manager, has left for Montreal for conference with GORDON LIGHTSTONE and THOMAS F. DOWBIGGIN, Montreal sales executives of Paramount.

•

SERGEANT MARTIN FINKELSTEIN, formerly with Fox Midwest Theatres in Kansas City, is a furlough guest here of LEO J. MCCARTHY, PRC sales manager, from Camp Detrick, Md.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales head, left yesterday for conferences with branch and division managers from Chicago to Los Angeles.

•

CLARK GABLE, still in an Army major's uniform, was in Chicago yesterday, en route from Hollywood to Washington on official business.

•

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to SPYROS SKOURAS, is due here early in September from the Coast en route to London.

•

FRED MEYERS, Eastern division sales manager for Universal, is on a business trip covering Boston and New Haven.

•

JOHN GRIERSON, head of the National Film Board of Canada, has arrived here from London.

•

TOMMY THOMPSON, Chicago publicity head for 20th Century-Fox, is in Milwaukee this week.

Wilson Memorial Gets $50,000 from 20th

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—At the suggestion of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, who declined to accept an honorarium for granting 20th Century-Fox permission to film her late husband's life, the company has presented $50,000 to the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation, it was learned here yesterday from Mrs. Cordell Hull, president of the group, which maintains "The Manse" in Staunton, Va., where the World War I president was born in 1865.

The gift establishes an endowment fund for maintenance of the home. "The Manse," dedicated by President Roosevelt in 1941, has been maintained up to now through a $3,000 grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia, plus personal donations and tourists' fees.

New Deal for British Help

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Economic and general working conditions of hundreds of studio workers were considerably improved today with the ratification of a new agreement by the unions and the British Film Producers' Association.

The new deal for the workers provides for the conversion of all hourly-paid employes to a weekly wage; an existing war bonus of $4.40 weekly has been merged with the basic wage, representing a wage increase, with a new weekly war bonus of $3.00 added; all workers will receive full pay for holidays, with payments also prescribed for sick-leave. The agreement becomes effective next payday, with the added payments made retroactive to June 1.

The entire plan is accredited to J. Arthur Rank, who argued that the efficiency of British studios is impaired unless there is reasonable security for the tenure of employment available for even the lowest-paid workers. He cited as an analogy the treatment accorded workers in his vast milling interests. He said it was necessary to "fight hard" to convince brother film-producers of the advisability of pursuing the plan just effected.

The unions have pledged "more vigorous cooperation of all workers in a policy to create a stabilized and an expanded film industry and in securing a world market for British pictures."

McMurray Crosby to Para. Stars Payroll

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 24.—Paramount's annual report to the Securities and Exchange Commission here reveals that Fred McMurray, with a salary last year of $422,166, and Harry L., (Bing) Crosby, with $311,111, topped the 1943 star payroll for that company. Producer George (Buddy) DeSylva was paid $263,946.

The report listed, under bonus and profit-sharing agreements, the amount of $365,435 for Cecil B. DeMille Productions, Inc., and $191,520 to the William H. Pine Corp.

RKO Considers Site For L.A. Theatre

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 24.—RKO will determine finally if the new first-run and long-planned property at the intersection of Fairfax and Wilshire Boulevards will crystallize after a careful post-war survey of the Los Angeles situation. The plot has been in the company's possession several years. If built, it would be operated jointly by RKO and Rodney Pantages.

Doubleday Names Lyons

Doubleday, Doran, book publishers, has appointed A. & S. Lyons, Inc., as its exclusive motion picture representatives in New York and on the Coast.

Coming Events

Today — Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Mohawk Golf Club, Schenectady.

Sept. 7-8—National Allied directors meeting, Bretton Woods, N. H.

Sept. 7 — Anti-Defamation Day rally and luncheon, New Amsterdam Theatre Roof, New York.

Sept. 10—National Screen Service sales meeting, New York.

Sept. 13—United Artists board meeting, New York.

Sept. 15—Exhibition representatives of New York State meet with labor department officials on building code. New York.

Sept. 15-17—National Screen Service sales convention, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 21—National Screen Service sales meeting, Los Angeles.

Oct. 16-18—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' semi-annual conference, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

FrenchGetWarFilms But Want Escapism

LONDON, Aug. 24.—The psychological warfare division of General Eisenhower's Staff Headquarters has so far approved only 22 British features, and an unknown number of Hollywood films, for showing to liberated sections of France, and their choice has been keyed to the theory that the French are eager for news of what had been happening in the outside world during the past four years. Half the British selections were pictures made to the order of the Ministry of Information.

More applauded by the natives, however, than any of the topical films has been the reissue of Charlie Chaplin's American comedy "The Gold Rush," and indications are that the peasants walking many miles to attend theatres in and around Cherbourg seek diversion rather than enlightenment. Thus, it is felt here, a new criterion of choice will have to be devised in the near future.

Army Staff Headquarters has British, French, American and Russian pictures at its disposal; and, within the radius of available product, selection by exhibitors is completely untrammeled. The theatres are run by their French proprietors, and, where cinemas are lacking, mobile units operate. Admission prices are double what they were before the war.

Archie Hall Wins Suit

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 24.—Archie Hall was awarded $5,000 actual and $10,000 punitive damages by a jury today in Superior Court by Judge Willis over charges Columbia Pictures had unfairly used the title of his radio show in "What's Buzzin', Cousin." An appeal is probable.

SOPEG to Have 10 At UOPWA Meeting

Sidney Young, president, and Ellen Davidson, organizer of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, here, and eight SOPEG members from the film companies with whom the union has contracts, will comprise the SOPEG delegation which will attend the fifth convention of the United Office and Professional Workers of America in Philadelphia, Sept. 4-9.

Some 300 delegates representing over 55,000 film insurance, finance, publishing and other white collar employes are expected to attend. Action will be taken at the meeting on economic problems facing office and professional employes today and to map out a program to extend union organization with the radio industry viewed as one possible new field.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Darryl F. Zanuck's
WILSON
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by HENRY KING
Written for the Screen by
LAMAR TROTTI
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
'BATHING BEAUTY'
Red SKELTON
EstherWILLIAMS
IN PERSON
ARTHUR TRACY
Added Attraction
RADIO ROGUES

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

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GOOD ENTERTAINMENT

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, INC.

IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

YOU DON'T NEED CLAIMS...

FIRST N.Y

WITH NAMES LIKE THESE.....

GARY (super

TERESA (all

i

The Greatest Romanti

"Casanov

Directed by

A Nunnally Jo



KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS. FIGHT BY THE SIDE
OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

SHOWING AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL — *OF COURSE!*

COOPER

WRIGHT

Comedy Of All Time

a Brown"

am Wood

son Production

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT



IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

The first Great Production
from the Great New Producing Company!

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, INC., PRESENTS

GARY COOPER
TERESA WRIGHT

in

"Casanova Brown"

The Greatest Romantic Comedy Of All Time

Directed by SAM WOOD

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production

with

Frank Morgan · Anita Louise

PATRICIA COLLINGE · Edmond Breon · Jill Esmond

Produced and written for the screen by Nunnally Johnson
From a play by Floyd Dell and Thomas Mitchell

RELEASED THRU RKO RADIO PICTURES INC.

Extended Runs Bring New Product Jam

(Continued from page 1)

first run product through Broadway affects hundreds of theatres in the New York territory.

No end is in sight for the runs of "Dragon Seed", at the Radio City Music Hall; "Since You Went Away", at the Capitol; and "Wilson", at the Roxy. "Mr. Skeffington" will have played 14 weeks at the Hollywood before making way for "Doughgirls" on Aug. 30 and "The "Story of Dr. Wassell" will have played at the Rivoli when "Till We Meet Again" opens there Aug. 29.

UA Hard Hit

One of the hardest hit by the shortage of first-run houses is United Artists, which is unable to find theatres for Edward Small's "Abroad With Two Yanks" and Seymour Nebenzal's "Summer Storm". Republic is understood to have bought into Brandt's Manhattan Theatre, now the Republic, to be assured of a first-run outlet on Broadway. Other top-budget productions awaiting theatres are: "Casanova Brown", which will follow "Dragon Seed" into the Music Hall; "The Seventh Cross", which will follow "Since You Went Away" into the Capitol; M-G-M's "An American Romance" and "National Velvet"; Warner's "Saratoga Trunk" and Paramount's "Frenchman's Creek", among others current and coming.

Twentieth Century-Fox's setting of "Wing and a Prayer" for a simultaneous run at the Globe and Gotham, starting Aug. 30, is seen as further complicating the situation, and the Victoria is understood to be committed to play "Wilson" following the run of that film at the Roxy with a tentative Victoria opening date of Sept. 13, causing some distributors to shy away from booking any of their films into the house at this time. M-G-M has booked "Kismet" into the Astor for a run and bookings at the Criterion are pretty well set.

Donaldson, Allen Due At MGM Home Office

Tom Donaldson, M-G-M manager in Boston, is scheduled to arrive at the home office on Monday to spend a week conferrenig with departmental heads, in line with the plan of William F. Rodgers to keep field men up to date on company operations. John S. Allen, Washington branch chief, is due tomorrow.

Leaving New York this weekend, following completion of their conferences with executives, are Edward M. Booth, Cincinnati manager; Jack Sogg, Cleveland, and Foster Gauker, Indianapolis.

Ostrom Promoted

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—Mrs. Margaret Ostrom, for the past 12 years in the advertising department of Bell and Howell here, has been appointed acting advertising manager, J. H. Booth, vice-president in charge of advertising, announces. She has been assistant to Booth for the past two years.

20th-Fox Net: $6,338,433

(Continued from page 1)

stock, to $1.81 a share on the 1,742,000 shares of common stock then outstanding.

On July 9, 1943, the company bought the outstanding Chase Bank-held 58 per cent interest in National Theatres and it became a wholly-owned 20th-Fox subsidiary. For the pose of comparison with the 1944 26-week profit of $6,338,433, had National Theatres been wholly-owned from the beginning of 1943, the 20th-Fox profit for the first 26 weeks of that year, including Roxy Theatre, Inc., would have been $5,535,279. After deducting dividends on the convertible preferred stock outstanding at that time, this was equal to $2.78 a share on the common stock.

For the second 1944 quarter, ended June 24, the net profit, after all charges, was $3,152,131, compared with a profit for the first quarter of 1944 of $3,186,302. The profit for the second quarter of 1943 on a comparable basis was $2,862,506.

The company reported gross income of $87,711,791 for the first six months, and expenses of $64,626,343, with additional interest and depreciation charges of $1,362,647, leaving a net profit of $21,722,800 before provision for taxes, which totaled $14,520,000. Company applied charges of $864,367 to minority interests, netting $6,338,433.

20th-Fox Directors Declare 3 Dividends

The board of directors of 20th Century-Fox yesterday declared a quarterly cash dividend of $1.12½ per share on the outstanding prior preferred stock, payable Sept. 15 to stockholders of record on Sept. 5.

A cash dividend of 37½ cents per share for the third quarter of 1944 on the outstanding convertible preferred stock was declared, payable Sept. 30, to stockholders of record on Sept. 15, 1944.

A quarterly cash dividend of 50 cents per share on the outstanding common stock was declared, payable Sept. 30, to stockholders of record on Sept. 15.

12 'B' Films Boost 20th Total to 39

(Continued from page 1)

the total number of features scheduled for 1944-45. On Wednesday MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported vice-president Tom Connors' product announcement for the season, which then stood at 27 features, 54 shorts and 104 issues of Movietonews.

A studio spokesman now explains that the "B's" were not included in the original announcement because it had not, nor has it yet been determined what the vehicles will be, but he added that they definitely will be made, all under the supervision of Ben Silvey.

Also not included in the original announcement as expected for 1944-45, were "Rickenbacker" and Wendell Willkie's "One World." It is now learned that the former will head the 1945-46 schedule. As for "One World," a studio spokesman said, "It's not on the list yet," indicating that it may or may not be made.

BMOI Features Had 37,000 Bookings In United States

The five feature British Ministry of Information films distributed here by American film companies to date have received approximately 37,000 bookings, Tom Baird, director of the film division of the British Information Services here, said yesterday. The approach of the fifth anniversary of Great Britain's entrance into World War II on Sept. 3 and his own contemplated visit to London at the end of next week for a month prompted Baird's recapitulation of the activities of the film division of BIS.

About 25 shorts made by BMOI have been distributed here by American companies in addition to the five feature documentaries, Baird said. Of the five features, "Target for Tonight" received 10,000 bookings; "Desert Victory," 10,000; "Tunisian Victory," over 8,000; "Next of Kin," 5,000, and "Coastal Command," 4,000.

BMOI Documentaries

BMOI has two new feature documentaries for which American distribution will be set shortly. One, "Western Approaches," dealing with the arrival of convoys in England, a 10-reel color film already completed. The other, "Journey Together," is expected to be ready by January; it deals with the training of British air cadets in Arizona, Canada and England. It is a fictional treatment, Edward G. Robinson appearing in the role of an American Air Force trainer.

Another joint production effort of BMOI and Col. Frank Capra's U. S. Army unit is in work, following "Tunisian Victory." It deals with the Burma campaign, and Col. Frank Bryce of the British Army is at work in Hollywood with Capra on the 100,000 feet of film that was shot on the operations of General Wingate's and General Stillwell's forces. Irving Asher's unit covered the action for the American Army, Baird said.

Plans for Joint Army Film

The British and American Army film units also planned to do a documentary on the current invasion of France but no definite decision has been made as to when assemblage of the footage should start. Detailed to this work are Col. Anatole Litvak, who received a facial wound recently while in Russia, and Col. George Stevens, with Lt. Col. Hugh Stewart and Lt. Col. David MacDonald of the British Army working on the project for BMOI.

Although actual figures on distribution are not available, Baird explained that 16mm prints of BMOI subjects are receiving considerable attention here. Distribution of the 16mm prints is handled by six BIS offices, in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, New Orleans and San Francisco, with some 24 sub-distributors throughout the country acting as depositories for the films. Baird feels that there can be a considerable interchange of films of this type between American and British agencies for professional groups even in the post-war period.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 24

PARAMOUNT'S one-time elaborate plans to relieve studio congestion by building a new plant on the 151-acre lot bounded by Pico, National and Overland boulevards, has been abandoned. The acreage has been sold for $440,000 to the Overland Housing Co., for a realty development project.

•

Scott R. Dunlop, Monogram producer, and George B. West, franchise holder in St. Louis and Cincinnati, have arrived here following attendance at the company's recent Chicago sales convention, and a supplementary trip to New York.

•

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, has announced that more than 75 per cent of the feature releases for 1944-45 already have leading players assigned to them. Thirty-three features are on the schedule, and leads are set for 25.

•

Herman Boxer, formerly with M-G-M shorts department will join PRC as associate producer.

•

Malcolm Kingsberg leaves for New York tomorrow after his annual Coast business trip.

•

Howard Estabrook left for New York today.

J. D. Weinland Asks $100,000 Damages

(Continued from page 1)

in his complaint included: Paramount Film Distributinb Corp., Paramount Picture Distributing Co., Loew's, Inc., RKO Radio, Inc., Vitagraph, Inc., Warner Brothers Pictures Distributing Corp., 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., Universal Films Exchanges, Inc., Republic Pictures Corp., and Adams Film Exchanges.

Earlier in the year Weinland was a joint plaintiff in a suit brought by A. B. Momand. This suit, however, was dismissed without prejudice three months ago. Weinland is the principal stockholder of Mystic Theatre Company, Inc., of Picher.

The complaint has been prepared with the aid also of George S. Ryan of Boston.

$31,343,730 New Tax High in July

(Continued from page 1)

last June 30 totaled $107,000,000, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 23.

More than its share of the increase from June to July was recorded in the Third New York (Broadway) district, where collections rose from $3,262,425 in June to $4,770,641 in July, compared with $2,403,248 for July of last year.

Convention to Hear Coe

Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, will address the National Association of Broadcasters at their annual convention in Chicago Tuesday, stressing film public relations in the radio field.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 24

PRODUCTION is at a new high for the Summer at M-G-M. Of the 33 players listed as stars on the studio's contract list, 23 are currently at work, or will be before the end of the month. Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly and Kathryn Grayson are busy with "Anchors Aweigh"; Van Johnson and Esther Williams are working on "Thrill of Romance"; Judy Garland and Robert Walker are at work on "The Clock"; Fred Astaire, Lucille Ball and James Melton are engaged on "Ziegfeld Follies"; Wallace Beery is cast in "Airship Squadron 4"; Lionel Barrymore and Van Johnson are working in "Dr. Red Adams," and Margaret O'Brien is in "Music for Millions."

Stars who will go before the cameras within the next two weeks include: Lana Turner, Laraine Day and Susan Peters in "Women's Army"; Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn, in "Without Love," and Greer Garson and Lionel Barrymore, who are to have the starring parts in "Valley of Decision." Two of M-G-M's stars are currently working at other studios: Irene Dunne in "A Woman's Privilege," at Columbia, and Hedy Lamarr in "Experiment Perilous," at RKO.

•

So successful was PRC's jungle adventure picture, "Nabonga," that producer Sigmund Neufeld has decided upon a follow-up, to be titled "White Gorilla." Sam Newfield will direct, and Buster Crabbe will again be starred. . . . Joyce Reynolds, who played the title role in Warners' "Janie," has been assigned quite a different part in "Mildred Pierce." She will portray a murderess. . . . Alfred E. Green has been assigned to direct Columbia's big-budget musical, "Eadie Was a Lady."

•

James Gow and Arnaud D'Usseau, co-authors of the play, "Tomorrow, the World," are protesting against the title, "The Intruder," which Lester Cowan has given his screen version of the piece. They have wired the producer asking him to make no final decision until they have had an opportunity to submit a title which is, in their opinion, more suitable. . . . Reginald Le Borg will direct "The Fugitive" for Universal. Alan Curtis, Martha O'Driscoll and Gloria Jean will be featured. . . . Art Baker, radio commentator, has been cast as a detective lieutenant in David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes."

•

Edward Arnold will have the leading male role in M-G-M's forthcoming drama, "Telltale Hands." . . . Mona Freeman, who is under contract to Paramount, has been borrowed by Columbia to play the ingenue lead in the Irene Dunne-Charles Boyer starrer, "A Women's Privilege." . . . Grace McDonald and Rod Cameron have been assigned the romantic leads in Universal's "Swing Out, Sister," which is scheduled to start within a few days. Arthur Treacher will have the top featured role.

Reviews

"San Fernando Valley"

(Republic)

ROY ROGERS and Trigger, his erudite horse, both perform excellently, as usual, in "San Fernando Valley," wherein the Rogers touch and voice flourish at utmost proficiency, with equally happy results promised for exhibitors and patrons. Dale Evans, playing in close romantic support of Rogers; Jean Porter as a love-sick juvenile, and Andrew Tombes, Edward Gargan and Dot Farley, providing comedy relief, are among others in a competent cast.

Dorell and Stuart McGowan's sprawling screenplay permits the ubiquitous Rogers and others to participate in a variety of events including exciting pursuits astride horses, a bumpy ride in a stage-coach that considerably chastens Miss Evans, a sulky race, and several brawling fisticuffs, where Trigger's flashing hooves lend substantial aid to Rogers in the combat. Director John English efficiently handles the abundant material, injecting several elaborate production numbers, probably as a sop to any lukewarm Western fans.

An appealing score, principally in the outdoor vein, is paced by the currently high-riding song, "San Fernando Valley," which offers exhibitors abundant exploitation opportunities. Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers sing their novelty tunes in an appealing manner; Vernon and Draper and the Morell Trio also help out with specialty numbers. Eddy White, associate producer, has given the whole a smooth production.

Running time, 74 mins. "G"* Release date, Sept. 15.

CHARLES RYWECK

"Adventure in Bokhara"

(Artkino)

A RUSSIAN film that tells nothing about the war or about Russians would seem to sacrifice a good deal of any current value of Soviet product in this country, but here is an escapist comedy so fresh in its handling of an ancient theme, so broad without resorting to slapstick, and yet so filled with choice satiric barbs that it is certain to please.

An early sequence which keys the humor finds the comedian Lev Sverdlin, cast as a fabulous adventurer from Bagdad, riding a donkey through Bokhara. He comes to a pool where a rich man has fallen in and hears a would-be rescuer yell, "Give me your hand." Sverdlin, holding out a coin over the water, says, "Don't ask a rich man to give; ask him to take," and the victim struggles ashore. Similar methods, always burlesquing greed and cupidity, enable the hero, after he has aroused the wrath of the ruler, to escape many threats of death and finally to save his lady-love, who has been carried off by the ruler.

The story, by L. Soloviev and V. Vitkovich, has an enjoyable Arabian Nights flavor throughout, and Charles Clement's titles have been given the fillip of American idiom. A cast featuring K. Mikhailov and E. Heller furnish the inspired Sverdlin with scores of foils. Y. Protozanov's direction keeps up a surprising pace for a Russian picture. It was produced, unstintingly, by Tashkent Film Studio.

Running time, 84 minutes. "G"* Release date, Aug. 19.

TOM LOY

**"G" denotes general classification.*

MacArthur Drive in New Australia Film

The Australian Government's Department of Information is now producing a film based upon the exploits of Australian fighter squadrons in their back-up drive in support of General Douglas MacArthur's drive from the Southwest Pacific to the Phillipines, it was reported here by the Commonwealth's local office.

It was also announced that Harry Watt, English producer who made "London Can Take It" and "Target for Tonight" will film the story of a cross-continent cattle drive as an aspect of Australia's food production program in the war.

War Dept. Film to WAC

The War Activities Committeee will distribute a special two-reel War Department film titled "The War Speeds Up" in an effort to combat the war production lag and to show the public that the Armed Forces continue to need all types of war material. WAC will announce the company which will handle distribution of the film in a few days.

Tone Executor, Trustee

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y., Aug. 24.—Franchot Tone has been named executor-trustee of the estate of his father, Dr. Frank J. Tone, former chairman of the board of Carborundum, who died here recently. Dr. Tone's will provides that each of his two sons shall receive one-sixth of the estate.

Short Subject Reviews

"Big Heel-Watha"

(M-G-M)

With a meat shortage threatening his tribe, Big Chief Rain-in-the-Face is compelled to put his warriors to work hunting game for the community. He offers the hand of his daughter to the brave who "brings home the bacon." Big Heel-Watha convinces Screwy Squirrel that he owes his carcass to the tribe and so brings him in to Rain-in-the-Face. There's a cute and hilarious twist at the climax. The youngsters will love this more than slightly farcical version of the legend of Hiawatha. Running time, 8 mins.

"Bear Raid Warden"

(M-G-M)

Barney Bear, air raid warden in his corner of the woods, is aroused from his bed at the first black-out signal. After a wild run-in with a lightning bug, Barney prepares for a monotonous patrol of his "beat." He is startled by a profusion of light flowing from a little cottage so he rushes in breaking all lamps in sight, only to find when he is finished that the little cottage with the light is his own. "Bear Raid Warden" is cleverly written and more than mildly amusing. Running time, 8 mins.

"Pick a Peck of Plumbers"

(Columbia)

Typical slapstick farce, with El Brendel and Shemp Howard performing as a twain of pseudo-plumbers, with resultant antics that will undoubtedly convulse the youngsters. The pair, to raise cash to cover a police fine, hire out as plumbers' helpers, and, after practically wrecking the house they are supposed to fix, find a lost jewel and receive a reward. Running time, 17 mins.

"The Bodyguard"

(M-G-M)

Jerry Mouse gets himself a bodyguard in the person of a belligerent English bulldog who promises to protect Jerry from his arch-enemy, Tom Cat. Tom is cornered at every turn as he tries to capture the mouse whose powerful whistle brings the dogs on the run every time. This cartoon, in color, is a riot of laughs. The music score is excellent. Running time, 8 mins.

"The Case of the Screaming Bishop"

(Columbia)

A take-off on the mystery film with mildly amusing results. The cartoon proceedings involve the search for a missing dinosaur by Hairlock Combs and his man Friday with a solution of the crime that is truly amazing. Howard Smith directed. Running time, 7 mins.

Fire Destroys Blue Fox

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 24.—The Blue Fox Theatre, Grangeville, Ida., has been totally destroyed by fire, with an estimated loss of $60,000. There were no casualties. The owner, Mayor Al Wagner, was insured.

Par: $51,500, 'Angels' Gets A Big $67,000

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—"And the Angels Sing" topped the Loop parade this week with a near-record $67,000 at the Chicago. Picture is in for a three-week run. Single disappointment is "The Adventures of Mark Twain" at the Roosevelt, which opened without benefit of much-needed publicity and grossed only $14,000 for the week against a $20,000 par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending August 24:

"Eve of St. Mark" (20th-Fox)
"Candlelight in Algeria" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,400).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c) Stage: Charlie Spivak and orchestra. Gross: $67,000. (Average: $51,500).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 9 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average 7 days: $9,100).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Blackstone Magic Show. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $24,000).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 6 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average 7 days: $24,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,000).
"White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M) 1 day, 8th week
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M) 6 days
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up In Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 17th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $10,000).

Odeon Acquires First Site in London, Ont.

TORONTO, Aug. 24.—Odeon Theatres of Canada has acquired a site on Dundas St. in London, Ont., where it will erect a 2,000-seat theatre when wartime construction restrictions are lifted.

Odeon also reported that Sam Fingold of Toronto, a company associate, has purchased the 620-seat Elmwood in London, marking Odeon's first acquisition in that city. Famous Players Canadian now operates seven theatres in London.

Industry Registers Protest on Spain

Formal representations have been made by the organized industry to the Spanish government through the American Embassy in Madrid, protesting the new import duties recently imposed and which the industry views as discriminatory, it was learned here yesterday.

Schedules of some of the new levies, as well as other film taxes incurred by American distributors in Spain were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 9.

DeVry Signs Tri-States

MEMPHIS, Aug. 24.—The Tri-State Theatre Service Supply Co. here has been appointed distributors of DeVry sound equipment for Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



FOLLOWING N.Y.PARAMOUNT PREMIERE THAT OUT-MIRACLED "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK",PRESTON STURGES' **"HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO"** GETS SMASH RECEPTION AT PEEKSKILL, N.Y.,PARAMOUNT, WITH GROSS THAT TOPPED "MORGAN'S CREEK" BY 73% IN FOUR DAYS...AND WAS MORE THAN "LADY IN THE DARK" GOT IN 6 DAYS! SO BRACKEN - DEMAREST HIT GOES INTO GENERAL RELEASE TODAY WITH ESTABLISHED EVIDENCE OF SENSATIONAL BIG-AND SMALL-TOWN DRAW.

'Way' Is 60% Over Average in Denver

DENVER, Aug. 24.—"Going My Way," at the Denham in its third week, was expected to gross $14,500, which is better than 60 percent above average. In cash the "Adventures of Mark Twain," on a dual at the Denver, led with $18,000. All moveovers were doing better than average business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 21-23:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $5,600).
"Step Lively" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,460. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,075. (Average: $4,500).
"The Mask of Dimitrious" (WB)
"The Black Paraachute" (WB)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,345. (Average: $9,300).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,250. (Average: $5,000).

'Way' Grosses Heavy $24,000 in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 24.—"Going My Way," at the Ambassador, and "Dragon Seed," at Loew's State, headlined business here this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,800. (Average: $15,700).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,300. (Average: $18,900).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,900).
"Dead End" (Film Classics)
"Pack Up Your Troubles"
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,200).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
FOX—(5,038) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $18,700).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(4,000) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $7,100).

Chicago Undecided On 'V-Day' Plans

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—Circuits in this territory, generally, have not as yet given much thought to operation of their theatres when 'V Day' arrives. The subject has been discussed by some executives, but no definite plans reached. Balaban and Katz houses will remain open, but it has not been decided how the theatres will handle the cheering throngs. Mayor Edward Kelly has announced that bars will remain closed until normal behavior is resumed.

Irving Mack, head of Filmack Trailers, reports that his company is receiving orders almost daily for trailers announcing the closing of theatres on V Day. Most of the orders have come in from independent out-of-town exhibitors.

Clearance Award Is Modified by Appeal Board, 1 Sustained

The appeal board of the American Arbitration Association here, in two decisions on appeals from clearance complaint awards, modified an award by the Boston arbitrator and affirmed a Chicago arbitrator's award, the AAA reported here yesterday.

In E. M. Loew's clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, the arbitrator's decision was modified to give the Winchester Theatre, Winchester, Mass., operated by E. M. Loew's, the following clearance conditions: The Granada and Strand theatres, Malden, Mass., shall have a maximum clearance over the Winchester of 14 days, and the Strand, Woburn, Mass., and the University, Cambridge, shall have seven days clearance over the Winchester.

The award further stated that the Capitol, Arlington, is not to have clearance over the Winchester on any pictures with respect to which the Winchester is subject to clearance or other restrictions in favor of the first-run suburban theatres in Malden, or of the Strand, Woburn, or the Medford, Medford. And on any pictures which are not subject to clearance or other restrictions in favor of such theatres in Malden, Woburn or Medford, but which have played second-run in Cambridge at the University, the maximum clearance granted the Capital, Arlington, Mass., shall be one day. Warner pictures at the Strand, Woburn, and Paramount product at the Capitol, Arlington, are excepted from the award, the appeal board stated. Intervenors were Arlington Theatres, Massachusetts Amusement, Middlesex Amusement and University Theatres.

Gary Complaint Dismissed

In the second appeal award, the board sustained the Chicago arbitrator's decision in dismissing a clearance complaint by the Gary Theatre Corp., operating the Palace Theatre, Gary, Ind., as filed against RKO and 20th Century-Fox. This complaint, the second filed by Gary, asked that clearance granted by RKO and 20th Century-Fox to the Chicago, Tivoli and Southtown, Chicago, operated by Balaban and Katz, and the Avalon and Capitol, Chicago, operated by Federal Theatres, be abolished as "arbitrary, excessive and unreasonable" as to area on the grounds that no competition existed between the Palace in Gary and the five Chicago theatres.

The appeal board also ruled that the complainant had failed to prove that there was "no competition between the theatres in question and that the clearance was unreasonable as to area," and therefore upheld the arbitrator's dismissal of the complaint. Intervenors were Federal Theatres, Warners and Balaban and Katz.

RCA Renews Fox Deal

RCA Service Co. has signed contract renewals for sound service with more than 300 theatres in the Fox West Coast groups. Territories covered by the agreements, which are now going into the ninth consecutive year, are: Wisconsin, Rocky Mountain, West coast and Pacific Northwest.

Reviews

"She's a Soldier, Too"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Aug. 24

PRODUCER Wallace MacDonald and director William Castle deserve a hand for this pleasant picture, which might so easily have lapsed into sentimentality, and yet remains always within the bounds of sensibility.

All the actors give a good account of themselves, and Percy Kilbride and Beulah Bondi give performances of particular distinction under Castle's deft hand. Miss Bondi and Ida Moore are cast as elderly spinster sisters, Kilbride their brother. They live in an old Philadelphia mansion, untouched and untroubled by the world outside the door. An emergency maternity case is brought to the house by an excited girl taxi driver, and after that things begin to happen. The mother dies, the baby is left to the care of the spinsters and the girl taxi driver persuades them to take boarders into their home to prevent it from being sold to satisfy a mortgage. The elder sister, Miss Bondi, is outraged at the change in her life, and it ies not without opposition that her sister and brother persuade her that they have all three gained far more than they have lost.

Melvin Levy wrote the screenplay from an original by Hal Smith. The cast, which is excellent, includes Nina Foch, Lloyd Bridges, Jess Barker, Erik Rolf, Jeanne Bates, Shelley Winter, and Marilyn Johnson.

Running time, 67 minutes. "G."*

THALIA BELL

"Moonlight and Cactus"

(Universal)

Hollywood, Aug. 24

SAILORS astray on a cattle-ranch is the subject of this pleasant little musical which presents the Andrews Sisters and Leo Carrillo. It is chockful of catchy songs, among them the familiar "Wahoo" and the "Handclapping Song." The Andrews Sisters also sing, with effect, "Down in the Valley," and a novelty number titled "Send Me a Man, Amen."

The screenplay, by Eugene Conrad and Paul Gerard Smith, concerns a young ranch owner who, returning from a stint in the merchant marine, finds that his foreman and his cowhands have been replaced by women. Outraged at first to find so much femininity scattered over his cactus-covered acres, he changes his tune when he discovers what a swell job the girls are doing. Of course, no Western story is complete without a cattle-rustler, and Carrillo takes the part in this one. In the end he sees the error of his ways and returns the cattle so that the ranch-owner personable Tom Seidel, can wed Elyse Knox, who plays the foreman, and all is as merry as a marriage-bell.

Frank Gross is credited as associated producer, and Eddie Cline directed. Others in the cast include Shemp Howard, Eddie Quillan, Murray Alper, Rom Kennedy, Frank Lackteen and Minerva Urecal.

Running time, 60 min. "G."* Release date, Sept. 9.

T. B.

"Land of the Outlaws"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Aug. 24

THOSE who like their Westerns full of fist fights and revolver-fire will be somewhat disappointed in this Johnny Mack Brown-Raymond Hatton vehicle. True, there is a mine-explosion near the end, but it is not likely to satisfy action fans. The story is presented in a straightforward manner under Lambert Hillyer's direction, but the incidents used for its unfoldment lack vigor.

Joseph O'Donnell, who wrote both screenplay and original story, tells of a saloon-keeper who plots to obtain a valuable mine for one-tenth of its value. By devious means he almost manages to convince the owner that the mine is worthless, but fortunately two United States marshals, in the persons of Nevada and Sandy, arrive on the scene in the nick of time. Not without danger to themselves, they expose the villain's schemes, and he is brought to book.

The production was under the supervision of Charles J. Bigelow, and among the cast are Stephen Keyes, Nan Holliday, Hugh Prosser, Charles King, John Merton, Steve Clark, and Art Fowler.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 16.

T. B.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Milwaukee 1st Runs In Average Week

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 24.—"The Story of Dr. Wassell," "Mr. Skeffington," "The Falcon in Mexico," with Stan Kenton's Band, and others, all did average business.

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $14,000).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Address Unknown" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $12,650. (Average: $11,500).

"Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,950. (Average: $4,500).

"Stagecoach" (UA)
"Trade Winds" (UA)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).

"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
Stan Kenton and Band
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

'Wassell's' $13,000 High in Montreal

MONTREAL, Aug. 24.—Receipts here are back to normal after a series of local setbacks. "Dr. Wassell," at Loew's, is expected to gross approximately $13,000 in its first week, while "The Mask of Dimitrios" at the Capitol, heavier side of a double bill, will take about $8,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 24:

"Une Femme Dangereuse" (French reissue)
"They Drive By Night" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500).

"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-45c-63c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000).

"Nine Girls" (Col.)
"Jam Session" (Col.)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (27c-34c-47c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500).

"Once Upon a Time" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

Harrington Head of N. Y. Projectionists

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Aug. 24.—The New York State Projectionists Association, meeting here, has elected Dennis Harrington, Saratoga Springs, president; Earl Turtle, Binghamton, Melvin Denny, Syracuse, and John Short, Corning, vice-presidents; Charles F. Wheeler, Geneva, secretary-treasurer; William Stevens, Jamestown, Glenn Humphry, Utica, Eddie Stewart, New York, Paul Shay, Elmira, and Ralph Hayes, Watertown, legislative committee; Richard Hayes, Westchester County, William Axton, Glenn Falls, Bernard Willoughby, Amsterdam, Herman Gelber, New York, and William Colguhan, Niagara Falls, executive committee; Harry Sherman, New York, State Federation of Labor delegate; and Francis E. Lerham, Geneva, sergeant-at-arms.

Ralph Hawkins Dies

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Aug. 24.—Ralph S. Hawkins, 73, former head of the motion picture department of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, died here recently. Surviving are a daughter and two sisters.

Rank Still Has Hopes of UA Deal in U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Alexander Galperson to New York. (Gain, Galperson and Sears arrived in New York from London on Tuesday).

Rank also disclosed that Ronald Neame, who photographed such British productions as "In Which We Serve," "One of Our Aircraft Is Missing" and "Major Barbara," will shortly leave for the United States to inspect studio equipment and production organization in Hollywood on Rank's orders. This is viewed as being indicative of Rank's determination to start top-scale production, using Hollywood standards immediately in the post-war. Rank said that the chief defect of British pictures was due to the type of production equipment available hitherto and that he is determined to remedy this situation, sparing no expense in the effort.

Gain in New York yesterday reiterated the continued possibility of reaching an agreement with UA, as stated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Aug. 23, when it was also disclosed that he and Dr. Galperson are here to continue their search for "the most advantageous distribution agreement" for the 10 Rank films.

It appears that Sears and Rank discussed the overall aspects of a distribution arrangement, but reached an understanding only on the basic nature of the conditions of a deal. While in London Sears is understood to have deferred seeking the reaction of UA executives to a possible deal until his return to the United States and that he and Rank merely reached an understanding and not a provisional deal.

Sears is understood to have conferred yesterday with Edward C. Raftery, president, and other UA executives on the deal. Another unknown factor, it appears, is the possible reaction of the UA board of directors to the distribution of the British product here.

In discussions beween Rank and Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, earlier this year, it is understood that 20th-Fox agreed to provide physical distribution facilities for Rank's films should he decide to distribute them through his Eagle-Lion Films here, but in that case Eagle-Lion would have to provide necessary sales personnel and other manpower needed. It is not considered likely that this will be attempted at present.

Davis Sees Canada Good British Outlet

Canadian exhibitors and the Canadian people look favorably upon British films, John H. Davis, joint managing director of British Odeon Theatres, declared here yesterday after a six-week survey of the Canadian film market for J. Arthur Rank. Davis plans to return to London in a few days to report to Rank on the possibilities of expansion of Rank distribution in Canada.

Davis said British pictures are now getting good playing time in Canada and several of Rank's films are getting distribution there. While in New York, he is discussing distribution problems with 20th Century-Fox, Paramount and Universal, who supply most of the product for British Odeon Theatres.

Davis is also a director of Rank's Manorfield Investment Trust, which handles all of Rank's interests in the film industry. Other directors are Rank and Mrs. Rank, G. I. Woodham-Smith and Leslie Farrow.

Although Davis is associated with Rank's exhibition interests, his six-week Canadian trip which took him from Montreal to Vancouver, was to study distribution.

Exhibitor Fraud in Pittsburgh Charged

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 24. — Distributor defendants in the monopoly suit filed in Federal District Court here June 15 by 24 Pittsburgh and Allegheny County independent exhibitors have entered a counterclaim that the plaintiffs have misrepresented their gross receipts, thus causing the distributors a loss which, though incalculable because of the percentage payment basis, runs into thousands of dollars. They demand a complete audit of all books of the exhibitors and payment of damages and costs.

The plaintiffs claim the distributors tried to enlarge their holdings and gain further control over independent theatres without running counter to decree regulations forbidding burdensome and unfair restrictions. They obtained, it is stated, a three-year postponement of the Government's right to demand divestment of their theatre holdings on the condition, among others, that such holdings be not expanded. Expansion was accomplished, however, it is claimed, by increasing the number of pictures independent theatres were required to show, thus increasing the fees, and then, where the exhibitors failed to comply, withdrawing first-run privileges. Thus, the plaintiffs charge, the defendants have gained further control without cost or responsibility to themselves. Voiding of all license agreements whereby distributors have control over length of runs is demanded.

Fees Not Paid in Full

With regard to license fees, the defendants claim the exhibitors had always agreed to pay them but frequently have not paid them in full.

The plaintiffs are: Morris Roth, Esther F. Roth, the Brushton Theatre Corp., the Buena Vista Amusement Co., C. F. Herman Bart, Ralph L. Norman, Jack Mervis, David Barnholtz, H. Finkel of the Carson Amusement Co., Sharpsburg Theatre Enterprises, William J. and Harry M. Walker of the Crafton Theatre Co., Harry Rachille of the Chateau Amusement Co., Associated Theatres, the Paramount Theatre of Braddock, Hazlewood Theatres, Regent Square Theatres, the Sheridan Theatre, Bessie Fineman, Peter Antonopolos, and the Rochester Amusement Co. The defendants are Paramount, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Vitagraph, RKO Radio, Universal, Columbia and United Artists.

Reemployment Plan For Studio Guilds

Hollywood, Aug. 24. — The Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions, claiming a membership of 22,000, is planning for the reemployment of returned service men and women with an eye toward television, it was reported here today. Also under way are plans for the establishment of an international bureau designed to facilitate the exchange of trained technicians with foreign countries in the postwar.

The Council will erect its own buildings here when wartime restrictions are lifted.

Mutual Web Heads Set Chicago Meet

Mutual Broadcasting's Board of directors, shareholders and executive committee will hold their third meeting of the year at the Drake Hotel in Chicago beginning today. The officials will remain in Chicago to attend the National Association of Broadcasters convention which opens there next Monday.

The MBS executive committee includes: W. E. Macfarlane, WGN, Chicago, chairman; H. K. Carpenter, WHK, Cleveland; Miller McClintock, MBS president; John Shepard III, Yankee Network, Boston, and Lewis Allen Weiss, Don Lee, Hollywood.

Video, Radio Back With Germany Out

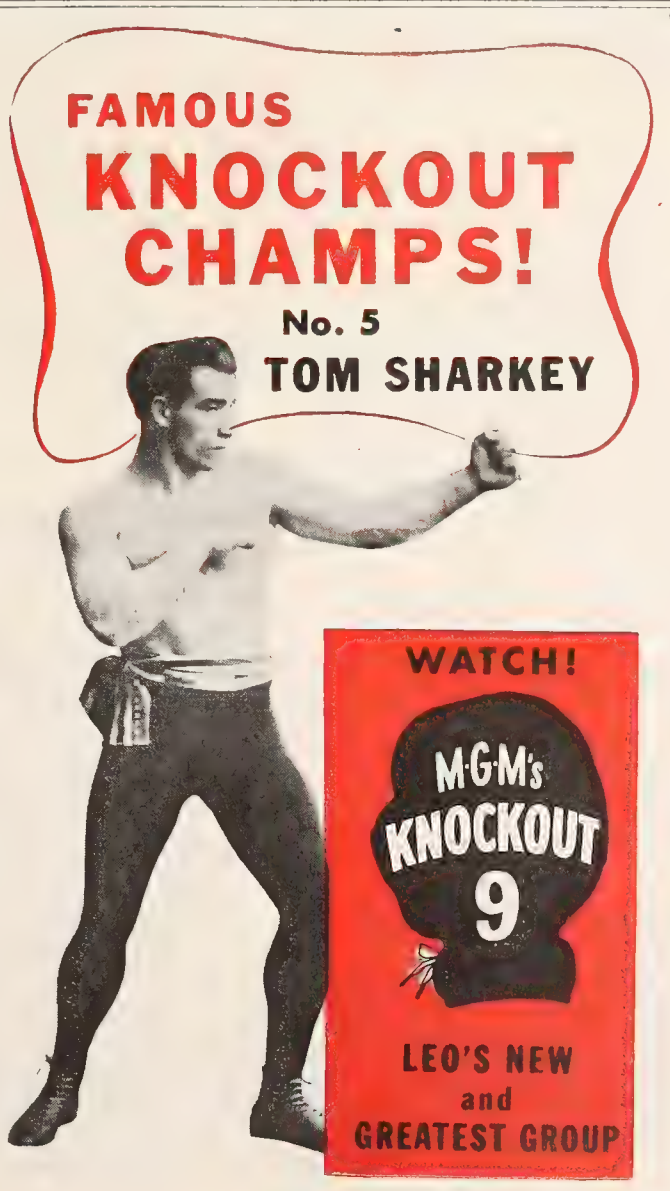
WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. — The defeat of Germany will be the signal for revival of the civilian radio and television industry, War Production Board officials here declared. Throughout the remainder of this year, however, the radio-radar production program must continue upward to meet military requirements only, and it was pointed out that radio was excluded from the list of civilian products which manufacturers may produce as materials and manpower become available, under the recent WPB "reconversion" order.

However, it was said, cutbacks of military contracts after the collapse of Germany may yield a sufficient supply of raw materials to enable civilian radio and television production without quota restrictions, since the amounts of steel, copper and other raw materials needed by that industry are comparatively small.

Representatives of the industry will be called in by the OPA next month.

'The Outlaw' Out For Duration

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24. — Howard Hughes and his picture "The Outlaw," suddenly figured in the news late today, when the producer declared his intention of not exhibiting the film, which has played only in San Francisco, until after the war. He attributed the reason to the fact he was "too busy on war production to iron out his differences with the Hays office over the picture."



OWI Reports on the Nazi Film Industry

(Continued from page 1)

disclosed here in years does not reveal to what extent the business has been hit by the heavy bombings of recent weeks.

Attendance in German theatres has skyrocketed from an average of 41,000,000 admissions a year before the war to 830,000,000 yearly at present. As a result, in some cities only soldiers and war workers are permitted to attend, and in other places tickets are sold well in advance, it is understood.

Production is centered in the UFA, Bavaria, Tobis, Wienfilm and Pragfilm companies. All productions must be approved by the German Film Bureau of the Propaganda Ministry before shooting can start, and the finished film passed before it can be released. Films are dubbed in all languages of occupied Europe and distributed to all occupied territories.

Limitations of Actors

Because of the acute manpower shortage, producers are only permitted to use a maximum of 12 actors in each scene, eliminating all mass scenes. Sets are limited to cardboard and to set measurements. The use of metal and wood is prohibited. No new costumes may be made but producers get around this restriction by obtaining new costumes in the black market.

Restrictions also limit shooting of scenes to two 'takes'; a shortage of silver for emulsions makes for a film scarcity. Agfa is the sole producer of film with plants in Berlin and Vienna; its Frankfurt plant has been destroyed by bombing. All surplus film equipment is understood to be stored in a bomb-proof storage in Berlin.

The German industry is already adapting itself to post-war markets by making escapist films which it hopes to be able to distribute, it was said.

Such prewar players as Emil Jannings, Markika Rokk, Willy Fritsch, Willy Forst, Paula Wessely are still working in the industry.

Dealers' Meeting Oct. 20

CAMDEN, Aug. 24.—Among members of RCA's theatre equipment section who will attend the annual meeting of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, to be held Oct. 20-22 at the Hotel Bismarck, Chicago, are Jack O'Brien, assistant sales manager; Homer B. Snook, sales manager, and Ed Auger, home office special representative.

3-Day Chicago Holiday

CHICAGO, Aug. 24.—Film Row here will have a three-day holiday over the Labor Day week-end. All exchanges will have only skeleton crews of one or two employees Sept. 2 to handle emergency calls. Offices of theater circuits, equipment houses and related business establishments will also be closed.

Crescent Gets New Site

MORRISTOWN, Tenn., Aug. 24.—Crescent Amusement Co. has purchased two buildings on West Main St. here, now occupied by the Ritz Theatre and a local store. Plans are now underway for the construction of a new theatre on the site. Crescent also operates the Ritz and the Princess, here, the only theatres in town.

Reviews

"Cry of the Werewolf"

(Columbia)

HORROR film fans will find much satisfaction in the weird characters and events in this Columbia chiller. Exploitation possibilities appear at every turn in the strange actions of Gypsy spiritualists who tur ninto 'werewolves' at the slightest provocation to feast on human blood according to the Continental legend. Though containing small measure of credulity the fantastic tale is presented smoothly in absorbing and exciting fashion.

When Fritz Leiber, museum curator, is about to expose the secrets of the Troiga Gypsies, led by Nina Foch, he is murdered, apparently by a wolf. His son, Stephen Crane, aided by Osa Massen, in piecing together charred bits of his father's notes, becomes suspicious of the Gypsies. Miss Foch, jealous of Miss Massen and bitter over the twisted life the werewolf legend forces her to lead, hypnotizes Miss Massen and makes her a member of the clan. When the police are finally called to the museum they find the wolf attacking Crane. The animal is shot and as it lies dying it assumes the form of Miss Boch. With the death of the wolf-princess, Miss Massen is freed from the spell.

The screenplay by Griffin Jay and Charles O'Neal, from Jay's story, maintains interest throughout. Director Henry Levin, assisted by Milton Feldman, handled the script with competence. Adequate supporting cast includes Blanche Yurka, Barton MacLane and Ivan Triesault.

Running time, 63 mins. "G"* Release date, Aug. 17.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"Block Busters"

(Monogram)

CLOSELY following production lines already established for the "East Side Kids" vehicles, Monogram's "Block Busters" is an entertaining film with comedy, action and drama present in about equal portions.

Houston Branch's rather stock story is well seasoned, however, with good dialogue, augmenting general production considerably. Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Gabriel Dell and Billy Benedict play the rough, tough kids with customary abandon—and apparent enjoyment. Supporting them are Minerva Urecal, Fred Pressel and Bill Chaney.

Gorcey's 'gang' objects to the wealthy Miss Urecal and her grandson, Pressel, a French boy, who have moved into the neighborhood to try to make an American out of Pressel. Gorcey stages a block fight to frighten the newcomers away—but it doesn't work. Miss Urecal likes block fights and would like them better if her grandson were in them. Ensuing events are highly amusing as the process of Americanizing Pressel manifests itself into a knock-down-drag-out affair with the unknowing Frenchman usually on the bottom. In the end he comes through victorious, batting out a home run for the Gorcey boys, and keeping their neighborhood championship.

Director Wallace Fox handled Branch's screenplay capably. Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz produced.

Running time, 60 mins. "G."* Release date, Sept. 16.

H. M.

"Sonora Stagecoach"

(Monogram)

CRAMMED from start to finish with both gun and flying-fist fighting, Monogram's "Sonora Stagecoach" is a natural for Western fans. Director-producer Robert Tansey sends the Trailblazers, Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele and Chief Thundercloud, through their paces in fine style, creating much action in practically every sequence.

"Rocky" Camron is "framed" by crooked bankers in a crime which he didn't commit. He is due back in Sonora to stand trial, but Charles King, stooge for the thieving bank executives, seeks to prevent his ever getting there, fearing Camron's testimony will rightly throw the guilt on him and his bank-robbing pals. The Trailblazers pick up Camron 100 miles from the town and whisk him over backwoods trails to Sonora with the help of young and pretty Betty Miles, whose devotion to Rocky is not confined to business. The real culprits are ultimately captured and Camron is freed.

The screenplay by Frances Kavanaugh was adapted from Robert Emmett's original story. The supporting cast includes Glen Strange, George Eldridge, Henry Hall and others.

Running time, 60 mins. "G." H. M.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Tufts No. 1 in Stars Poll

(Continued from page 1)

independents including Lena Horne in place of Greenstreet. Jennifer Jones, whose performance in "The Song of Bernadette" won an Academy award, was entitled, by virtue of the balloting, to fourth position, but her name has been eliminated in view of the general recognition of her higher status.

That Hollywood will again be quick to respond to the exhibitor preferences is indicated by the producers' promotion to stardom of the No. 1 poll winners in each of the past three years, William Bendix, Van Heflin and Laraine Day, as well as others who gave them strong competition for the top rung.

The election of seven men and three women this year, compared with six men and four women in 1943, is seen as reflecting the need for more male stars to take the places of those serving in the Armed Forces.

Nation's Critics' Poll

The nation's critics, polled separately on their choices for "Stars of Tomorrow," agreed with five out of ten of the exhibitors' selections. Fitzgerald, sixth on the showmen's list and prominently mentioned for an Academy award by virtue of his work in "Going My Way," was the reviewers' first choice, with Miss Allyson not far behind. Greenstreet, Dentine and Miss De Haven also met with the critics' approval. Included in the top bracket by the critics, though not by the exhibitors, were Dianna Lynn, William Eythe, Lon McAllister, Gregory Peck and John Hodiak. Tufts missed out by one vote.

In 11th place on the exhibitors' list was Robert Ryan, followed, in the order named, by Bonita Granville, Dennis O'Keefe, Lena Horne, Marilyn Maxwell, Susanna Foster, McAllister, Michael O'Shea and Virginia O'Brien (tied), Alan Marshall and Dinah Shore (tied), Jinx Falkenberg, Cass Daley, Hodiak and Keenan Wynn and Peggy Ryan (in a three-way tie), Miss Lynn, Betty Field, and Ann Miller.

Although not rating mention in the combined vote, Marguerite Chapman appears on the circuit exhibitors' secondary list, while the independents were alone in including Gloria Jean, Ella Raines and Belita.

Garrard to Ottawa

TORONTO, Aug. 24.—Lt. Com. John Garrard of the Royal Canadian Navy former manager of the Atlas Theatre, Victoria, B. C., has been named to the Naval Headquarters Staff at Ottawa, following a year of combat duty.

Flying Officer Doug Quirt, formerly of the Capitol Theatre at Peterboro, Ont., has recovered from a broken back and broken ankles sustained in a crash which occurred when his ship was returning from a raid over enemy territory.

DuMont Gets Degree

PASSAIC, N. J., Aug. 24.—Allen B. Du Mont, president of Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories here, has been awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y., of which he is a graduate, class of 1924.

First in Film and Radio News Briefs, Accurate and Impartial

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VOL. 56. NO. 40 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Violations of Child Labor Law Attacked

New York State Probes Theatres' Laxity

Representatives of Edward Corsi, New York State industrial commissioner, yesterday were in the midst of a survey of New York City theatres looking for illegal employment of children, and it is indicated that the violations are "considerable," according to a state labor department spokesman here. Theatres elsewhere in New York will be investigated also.

Corsi spokesmen report that the illegal employment of 9,000 children, hundreds in theatres, was ended in the last four months as the result of a state-wide drive on child labor violators. The State Labor Department, it was said, is stopping the employment of about 2,000 children each month.

On the basis of incomplete findings, theatres' infringements of the child

(*Continued on page 3*)

20th Will Produce In England: Schenck

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—Twentieth Century-Fox will produce in England in a limited way during the war and expects to expand activities there in the post-war period, Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of production, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the weekend.

First will be "Moss Rose," which Howard Hawks will produce and direct at Denham Studios with February as a starting date. A second is being sought and, when lined up, will

(*Continued on page 6*)

McKay Files Answer In Schine Suit

BUFFALO, Aug. 27.—Willard S. McKay, chief counsel for the Schine circuit, at the weekend filed a 30-page answer to the Government's request for admission of facts in connection with the anti-trust trial, scheduled to resume here Sept. 26.

McKay declared in the answer's opening paragraph that all facts ad-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Carolina Polio Cuts Receipts 50-60%

Charlotte, Aug. 27.—Exhibitors of western North Carolina, where a polio epidemic has raged since mid-June, report business off as much as 50 to 60 per cent in both child and adult attendance, Mrs. Pauline Griffith, secretary to the North and South Carolina Theatre Owners' Association, disclosed here at the weekend.

Some health departments have banned theatre attendance of children under 13, while in many communities the ceiling was placed at 15. North Carolina has passed the 500-mark in the number of cases this Summer.

20 of PRC's 40 Are Set

PRC has 50 per cent of its 1944-45 production, 20 out of 40 features, now completed or in work, according to a weekend announcement here by Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager.

The company's new season's program got under way on Aug. 15 with the release of "Dixie Jamboree," starring Frances Langford and Guy Kibbee, and the following are all com-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Single Selling Seen Within Gov't Laws

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Single selling of features under any new consent decree, rather than offering them in small blocks, as at present, may not constitute a violation of the anti-trust act prohibition against intercompany agreements, Department of Justice officials indicated here at the weekend in commenting on reports that the distributors might resort to such a policy if the Government's recommendation for a modified decree becomes effective.

Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, had earlier contended that any concert of action on this point would constitute an agreement in restraint of trade, but Department officials now stated legality would depend upon how any such plan was put into operation. They refused to pass on the reported belief that single selling would be mandatory under the amended decree which the Government seeks but said that if any film executives or lawyers had doubt on how the proposed modification would work, they could come to Washington at any time and "talk it over."

So far, it was said at the Department, no exhibitor had registered any opinion as to the effect upon theatre owners of the changes in selling methods which would be required under the modified decree.

Capital WPB Only to Rule On New Houses

Withdraws Authority From Field Offices

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—The War Production Board at the weekend withdrew from its field offices all authority to approve theatre construction or theatre rebuilding projects, effective immediately, and ordered that all applications for authority to build or rebuild be referred to Washington for handling.

The board's action was a reversal of a plan introduced only a few weeks ago, at the instance of the Office of Civilian Requirements, to permit WPB field offices to handle theatre applications involving up to $100,000, with only projects in excess of that amount to come to Washington.

Officials explained that the change

(*Continued on page 3*)

Universal Sets Up International Corp.

Formation of Universal International Films, Inc., as a subsidiary of Universal Pictures was announced at the weekend, making three foreign film holding companies, establishment of which, following the pattern set by Loew's International Corp., was forecast by MOTION PICTURE DAILY last July 20.

Substantial tax savings are said to be possible under the foreign holding company plan, inasmuch as corpora-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Joseph Realigns 'U' Field Staff

Re-alignment of Universal's territorial publicity-advertising organization was announced over the weekend by John Joseph, national director of "U.'s" publicity and advertising.

Ben Katz, who has for some months been assigned to the Coast studio, will be transferred to Chicago to assume

(*Continued on page 6*)

Low-Income Runs Hold to Serials, Fade Elsewhere

CHICAGO, Aug. 27.—Operators of neighborhood theatres in this area reveal that serials are still popular in modern income localities, but have lost favor among adults and youngsters with first-run theatre money in their pockets.

Emil Stern, vice-president of Essaness Theatres, points out that improved conditions have turned away many of the regular "kid" customers to "A" houses both in the neighborhoods and in the Loop area. The circuit continues to use serials only in its low income neighborhood houses, where patrons are still shopping.

Samuel Harper, operator of the Irving and Jeff theatres, says that serials go well in his houses, located in low-income neighborhoods, and he plays them Tuesdays and Wednesdays to discourage too much "kid" trade Saturday afternoons. Harper says that too many children on Saturdays discourage adult patronage, an unprofitable situation for the theatre. Both adults and children in Harper's neighborhood follow serials.

Much in favor of serials are such circuit officials as A. J. Platt, Balaban and Katz neighborhood theatre executive, and Jack Rose, president of Indiana-Illinois Theatres, who state that there will always be room for the chapter-play in their so-called "action picture" house, catering to "kid" business and adults favoring that type of picture. The Indiana-Illinois circuit starts its serials at the beginning of the school year, and to add interest to the initial chapter, provides special prizes for children in the audience.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, chairman of Universal's board of directors, will return from the company's Coast studios in about 10 days.

•

EDWARD C. CAHILL, DAVID J. FINN, BARTON KREUTZER, HOMER B. SNOOK, O. V. SWISHER, A. G. PETRASEK, H. J. BENHAM and EDWARD STANKO, RCA sound and service executives, have returned to the Camden home office from RCA's Indianapolis plant.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, president of Malco Theatres, Memphis, has been in New York participating in a national championship bridge tournament, which will also take him to Chicago before he returns to Memphis.

•

PINCKNEY REED, RCA service field engineer, has returned from a year's assignment in Brazil, and JAMES L. COST has returned to Dallas from a two-year RCA assignment in the Canal Zone.

•

JOHN GRIERSON, head of the National Film Board of Canada, has returned to Ottawa after spending a few days in New York upon returning from London.

•

HENRY GINSBERG, in charge of Paramount production, accompanied by WILLIAM MEIKLEJOHN, studio casting director, left for Hollywood Saturday.

•

JAMES WINN, United Artists New England district manager, is here from Boston to attend a home office conference.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO sales promotion manager, will return to his desk today following a two weeks' vacation.

•

JOHN LE ROY JOHNSTON, director of advertising-publicity for International Pictures, left here at the weekend for the Coast.

•

W. C. MICHEL, 20th Century-Fox executive vice-president, left Friday for a week's vacation at his Connecticut country place.

•

FRANK R. ROGERS of Florida State Theatres, has returned to Jacksonville from New York.

•

GERALD KEYSER, Warners' foreign publicity director, will return to his desk today from a two-week vacation.

•

HOWARD ESTABROOK, RKO director, arrived in New York from Hollywood on Saturday.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, will leave for Boston today.

•

JOSEPH O'BRIEN, Universal Newsreel editor, is home recuperating from a recent illness.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

WOULD adoption by the Federal court of the Department of Justice's anti-block booking provision, contained in the government's new proposals for an amended industry consent decree, result in single picture selling?

The Department, or at least an anonymous spokesman for it, has been reported as saying it would not and that single picture selling, or buying, is not its objective. Decree company officials, on the other hand, say that that will be the result of the Department's proposal, regardless.

The Department's anti-block booking proposal reads: "No distributor defendant shall condition the licensing of one feature or group of features upon the licensing of another feature or group of features."

That would appear to bear out the Department's contention were it not for an interpretative elaboration of that proposal contained in a statement issued by Attorney General Francis Biddle simultaneously with the filing in New York Federal District court of the Department's proposed decree amendments on Aug. 7. Biddle's statement said in effect that the Department believes that recent Supreme Court decisions "have made it clear that the forcing of feature licenses by the tieing of one copyright to another is unlawful."

Regardless of what the Department intends by its anti-block booking proposal, the only meaning that Biddle's statement can have for the layman, and certainly for the distribution companies concerned, is that the licensing of one copyrighted motion picture cannot be linked to the licensing of any other motion picture. That means that every licensing agreement must be a separate transaction and for a single picture.

•

Any discussion of the Department's meaning or intent with respect to this proposal is academic so long as the Department stands behind the Biddle statement because, for just that long, no decree distributor would be likely to risk the penalties of contempt by the licensing of pictures in groups. It is implicit in the Biddle statement that to so sell would be to court either a government action for contempt or a new suit for violation of the anti-trust laws.

Clearly, if the Department does not want decree distributors to sell pictures singly, as its nameless spokesman has been reported as saying unofficially, then the Department should have no hesitancy in retracting and correcting the Biddle statement which, on its face, contradicts the Department's off-the-record spokesman.

Distributors learned when their months of earnest effort to improve trade practices were dissipated overnight by the Department's refusal to approve the Umpi trade practice proposals that the Department is more concerned with the letter of the law than with its spirit, insofar as this industry is concerned. In view of that experience, it is certain that no legal adviser to a decree company would counsel it to sell more than one picture at a time while the Biddle statement stands.

•

If the Department is sincere in its unofficial assertion that it does not wish to force the selling (or buying) of pictures individually, then it has but to retract the Biddle statement and stipulate unequivocally in its decree proposal that nothing in that provision is to be construed as prohibiting a distributor from licensing more than one picture at a time.

That much, clearly, is up to the Department if its intent as to single picture selling really is what its unnamed spokesman asserts it to be. It is the distributors who will be selling the pictures, not the Department. And it will be the distributors, not the Department, from whom the penalty will be exacted should their method of selling, even though adopted in good faith on the basis of the Department's unofficially indicated attitude and with the exhibitors' wishes in mind, be found at some later accounting to have departed in some particular from the letter of an ambiguously worded or liberally interpreted decree provision.

•

As it now stands, the best that can be said for the Department's proposal is that it would permit the exhibitor to negotiate for "one feature or a group of features." But in the light of the Biddle statement that one copyright cannot be tied to another, the exhibitor would have to negotiate for pictures individually before he could assemble a "group." As all in the trade know, that kind of film buying is going to be costly to both exhibitor and distributor both in time and money and entirely apart from its consequences to production planning.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 27

DEL GOODMAN has resumed his post as Paramount district manager in Los Angeles, following completion of a special assignment for Paramount International Films in South Africa. Goodman left here in January.

•

Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warners, has assigned Eleanor Parker and Robert Hutton to the leads in "Rendezvous," based on the exploits of Major Gus Raymond. Shooting will start on completion of Miss Parker's work in "Of Human Bondage." Delmer Daves will direct, with Jerry Wald producing.

•

Shirley Temple has left for New York, where she will participate in Red Cross and war bond rallies, visit Army camps and hospitals and appear in USO shows. She is due there Tuesday.

•

Irving Pichel was signed to direct "Colonel Effingham's Raid," Lamar Trotti's first as producer for 20th-Fox.

•

M-G-M bought "History of Rome," Heang's best selling novel.

•

20th-Fox lifted options on Gregory Peck and Clifton Webb.

•

Dore Schary, Vanguard producer, entrained yesterday for New York.

Rodgers to Coast to View New Product

M-G-M field managers' conferences with home office executives will be suspended for three weeks beginning Labor Day while William F. Rodgers, vice-president and sales manager, is at the Coast studios viewing new season product.

D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines manager, and H. A. Friedel, Denver chief, formerly scheduled to arrive in New York Sept. 11, and J. F. Willingham and C. J. Briant of the St. Louis and New Orleans branches respectively, due Sept. 18, will arrive at a later date not yet set. Rodgers will leave here shortly after Labor Day.

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Widespread Child Labor Violation In N. Y. Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

labor laws are said to involve ushers, ticket takers and porters, many of whom allegedly have been employed without first obtaining necessary juvenile working papers. Other violations, it is claimed, consist of keeping minors on duty a prohibitive number of hours daily and requiring them to run elevators, which is forbidden under the statutes.

The survey, undertaken on both a city-wide and state-wide scale, is expected to be completed by the middle of next week, after which it will be made the basis for an intensive drive to correct the condition. Looming yesterday as a likely method of future action was the formation of an exhibitors' committee to foster sentiment against violations and to acquaint all employers with the requirements of the law and the reasons for them.

5,583 Violations in 3 Months

In all fields during May, June and July, violations discovered by Corsi's inspectors reached an all-time peak of 5,583 throughout the state, the wartime shortage of adult labor being, obviously, responsible. Support of newspapers, radio stations, churches, educational authorities and mayors of cities will be enlisted to warn employers and parents that it is necessary for children between 14 and 18 to get work permits, which are granted only when they are found to be in good health. Employers who hire boys and girls without such papers face 30 days in jail or a fine of not less than $250, or both. In addition, if any child illegally employed is hurt while at work, the employer must pay double compensation.

Also, the state labor department is tackling the problem of persuading children who are working this Summer to return to school in the fall. The industry's War Activities Committee is already in this campaign, with a current film bulletin, featuring Bing Crosby, stressing the importance of the youngsters completing their educations.

Coast Writers See 'Mike' in Mexico

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—PRC's first out-of-town junket was held over the weekend when reviewers were conveyed across the Mexican border for a screening of "The Great Mike" at Tiajuana. The party, totaling about 30, traveled South by bus, clocked the horses at Agua Caliente, took in the races there and returned to Hollywood Sunday evening.

"The Great Mike" was produced by Martin Mooney, stars Stuart Erwin and is a story about a boy, a dog and horse. Therefore, the racetrack background. Leon Fromkess, PRC president, was host.

Hundreds of San Diego and Lower California businessmen and social figures attended the premiere at the Grand Cinema Theatre. "Great Mike" cast members also appeared at the showing and at other scheduled events.

Ferguson to Hold Series of Meetings

William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation director, will leave here tomorrow for Chicago where he will hold the first of a series of district meetings with field exploiteers and theatre representatives. The Midwest sessions will start Wednesday at the Blackstone Hotel and continue for three days.

New product, betterment of promotional service, new ideas and additional service to small town theatres and subsequent runs are on the agenda. During one of the three days advertising-publicity heads of a number of circuits will be invited to a luncheon at which there will be an open discussion on promotional cooperation angles.

Attending the Chicago meetings with Ferguson will be John E. Flynn, Western sales manager; Sam Shirley, Midwestern district manager; W. E. Banford, Chicago branch manager; William G. Bishop, Western division exploitation representative; William Green and Warren Slee, Chicago; Louis Orlove, Milwaukee; Norman W. Pyle, Minneapolis; Jack Connor, Omaha; Austin McGough, Des Moines.

Roberts to Vanguard Publicity Office

Joseph L. Roberts, for four years press representative for the Center Theatre in Rockefeller Center here, has joined Vanguard's New York publicity staff, it was reported at the weekend by Hugh Owen, general sales manager.

Prior to his connection with the Center, Roberts was publicity director for the Blackstone agency. Before entering publicity, he was a New York newspaperman. Roberts will assist Leo Katcher in the local office.

Sterling to Assist Cummings at M-G-M

Arthur Sterling, former traveling auditor for M-G-M, has been named assistant to Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations. He will supervise home office statistical and clerical departments, aided by Rose Klein, who will handle her new duties in addition to field statistics.

The new appointments round out the home office departmental setup inaugurated by William Brenner recently named to succeed the late J. S. MacLeod, formerly in charge of exchange maintenance.

Martin Increases Circuit to 105

COLUMBUS, Ga., Aug. 27.—Roy E. Martin's circuit of 100 theatres in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida, has been augmented by the five theatres of M. C. Lee at Cuthbert, Dawson and Shellman, Ga., and Eufaula, Ala., purchased by Martin for $350,000.

Lee entered exhibition 33 years ago on a capital of less than $100.

Arthur Phillips Dies

CHICAGO, Aug. 27.—Arthur A. Phillips, Paramount salesman here, died recently. He had been with the company since March, 1943, when he was named to the Milwaukee sales staff.

20 of PRC's 40 Are Set

(Continued from page 1)

pleted and will be released between now and Dec. 15:

"Swing Hostess," with Martha Tilton; "Gangsters of the Frontier," with Tex Ritter and Dave (Tex) O'Brien; "I Accuse My Parents," with Mary Beth Hughes and Robert Lowell; "Bluebeard," with John Carradine and Jean Parker; "Wild Horse Phantom," with Buster Crabbe and Al (Fuzzy) St. John; "I'm from Arkansas," with a cast of screen and radio comedians headed by Slim Summerville and El Brendel; "Texas Rangers No. 2," with Tex Ritter and Dave (Tex) O'Brien; "The Town Went Wild," with Jimmy Lydon, Freddie Bartholomew and Edward Everett Horton; "The Great Mike," with Stuart Erwin and Robert (Buzzy) Henry; "Here We Go Again," with Frank Jenks and Robin Raymond, and "Hollywood and Vine," with James Ellison and Wanda McKay.

Ready for shooting and scheduled to go into production during the next month are: "Fog Island"; "First Illusion"; Texas Rangers No. 3 (Western); Buster Crabbe No. 3 (Western); "G. I. Guy"; "War Marriages"; "Crime Inc.," and "Swamp Man."

McCarthy will leave for Hollywood on Wednesday to confer with Leon Fromkess, PRC president, and other studio executives on sales campaigns for forthcoming product. He expects to remain on the Coast about a month.

$45,000 Melon Cut By 163 of F-WC

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 27.—One hundred and sixty-three Fox-West Coast district and theatre managers at the weekend cut a $45,000 cash melon representing awards in the Spring drive covering 14 weeks ended July 15, while the circuit made additional plans to launch a ninth annual drive starting Aug. 30, terminating Dec. 23.

The awards are based on percentage increases over parity and have been part of a system operating at Fox-West Coast for years. Two hundred theatremen attended the meeting at the Ambassador Hotel here, when the prizes were disbursed. George Bowser presided.

Defamation Rally to Hear Reynolds

The "Anti-Defamation Day" rally on the New Amsterdam Roof here Sept. 7 will be addressed by Quentin Reynolds, war correspondent, it was reported by the amusement and allied industries committee sponsoring the event. Arrangements for other speakers are being made by committeemen Barney Balaban, Nate Spingold, Harry Brandt and Max A. Cohen.

'Cross' at 50 Theatres

M-G-M's "The Seventh Cross" has been set for openings in 50 Loew theatres throughout the country, starting Aug. 31. Each engagement will be for a minimum of seven days. The film will open at the Capitol here following United Artists' "Since You Went Away."

Capital WPB Only to Rule On New Houses

(Continued from page 1)

in handling was ordered so that the WPB here might have current information available at all times regarding all applications received and actions taken thereon. Applications will still be filed with the field office for the area in which the project is located, and will be reviewed by field representatives who will make recommendations on which the Washington office will act.

The authority of the field offices will be limited to the denial of applications or recommendations for approval, but actual approval of any project hereafter must come from Washington.

The new method of handling theatre applications will apply to all new houses, rebuilding of theatres damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty, or conversion of any other type of building to theatre use.

Zanuck Will Attend Capital Premiere

Darryl Zanuck, producer of 20th Centry-Fox's "Wilson," will fly from California to attend the film's Washington premiere on Sept. 7 at Loew's Capitol theatre.

Carter Barron, Loew's Washington theatre division manager, is in charge of arrangements and is now working with 20th-Fox on the opening and the subsequent Capitol road-show engagement at advanced prices. Diplomatic, social and military celebrities have been invited to attend the premiere. Jules Fields, 20th-Fox assistant exploitation manager, and Jerry Pickman of the home office are in Washington working with Barron.

Kinsky to Capital on War Loan Figures

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Joe Kinsky, industry coordinator of the Fifth War Loan, is due here tomorrow to meet with Ted Gamble, national War Finance director, and Treasury statisticians, in an effort to compute the results of the industry's participation in the last campaign.

A study of all reports submitted by theatres, plus a survey prepared by the Treasury, is expected to yield an accurate index of theatre bond-selling activities.

Kinsky will return to New York on Wednesday.

Arnstein Is Named Classics Executive

Eugene Arnstein has arrived in New York from Milwaukee, to become comptroller of Film Classics with headquarters at the home office. Arnstein, who for 18 years was associated with the Warner and Fox Circuits in Wisconsin as manager, booker and superviser, will oversee a complete reorganizational set-up at Film Classics. He will control office help, purchasing and general business detail.

VOL. III—NO. 299. Entered as Second Class Matter Post Office, New York, N. Y. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY.

PARIS SET BY UNDER

Till We...

Starring

Ray Milland · Barbara Britton

with WALTER SLEZAK · LUCILE WATSON

A Frank Borzage PRODUCTION

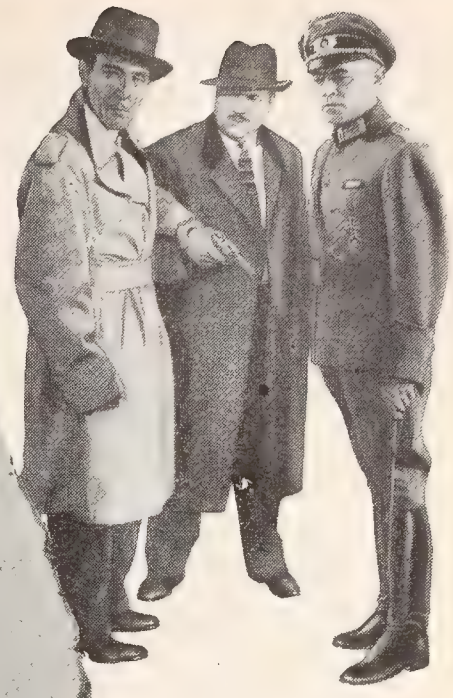
Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Screen Play by Lenore Coffee

She Came From A World Without Men To Join The Heroic F.F.I. And Save The Life Of A Man She Had Vowed Never To Love!



FREE GROUND



AND Paramount SET

TOMORROW FOR THE TIMELIEST WORLD PREMIERE
OF THIS OR ANY OTHER WAR, AT N. Y. RIVOLI

Neet Again

A Girl of the Maquis and an American
Captain in an Amazing French Underground Adventure
That Helped Make Today's Great Headlines Come True

Coast Filming Slackens to 47; Eight New

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—Production activity slackened last week as 16 features went to cutting rooms and only eight before cameras. Total in work was 47, compared to 55 in the preceding week. The production scene follows:

Two independents without distribution tieups are also shooting. Associated Film Producers is making "Mom and Dad," and W. R. Frank has started "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog."

Columbia

Finished: "Dormant Account" (Darmour).
Started: "Raiders of Quanto Basin," with Charles Starrett, Tex Harding and Carole Mathews.
Shooting: "Tonight We Dance," "Hello, Mom," "Tonight and Every Night," "A Woman's Privilege."

M-G-M

Finished: "Autumn Fever," "Ziegfeld Follies."
Started: "Telltale Hands" (tentative title), with Edward Arnold, Selena Royle, Hume Cronyn and Audrey Totter.
Shooting: "Thrill of a Romance," "Gentle Annie," "The Clock," "Dr. Red Adams," "Anchors Aweigh," "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions," "Son of Lassie."

Monogram

Fishished: "The Case of the Missing Medico," "Murder in the Family."
Shooting: "They Shall Have Faith."

Paramount

Finished: "Out of This World."
Shooting: "Dangerous Passage," (Pine-Thomas); "Kitty."

PRC

Finished: "Song of Six Guns," "Phantoms of Wild Valley," "The Town Went Wild."
Started: "Untitled Buster Crabbe."
Shooting: "Hollywood and Vine."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "China Sky," "Two O'Clock Courage," "Pan-Americana," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "Faces in the Fog," "Flame of Barbary Coast."
Started: "Thoroughbreds," with Tom Neal, Roger Pryor, Adele Mara and Jeanne Garrick; "The Big Bonanza," with Richard Arlen, Robert Livingstone, Gabby Hayes, Jane Frazee and Lynn Roberts.
Shooting: "Next Comes Love" (Sydney Williams), "Lake Placid Serenade."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier."
Started: "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," with Betty Grable, Phil Silvers, Dick Haymes and Beatrice Kay; "Hangover Square," with George Sanders, Linda Darnell, Fay Marlowe and Laird Cregar.
Shooting: "Nob Hill," "Winged Victory."

United Artists

Shooting: "The Great John L" (Crosby); "High Among the Stars" (Rogers); "Brewster's Millions" (Small); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Finished: "Musical Roundup," "Queen of the Nile."
Started: "Penthouse Rhythm," with Frances Raeburn, Rod Cameron and Arthur Treacher.
Shooting: "Arsene Lupin," "Can't Help Singing," "Accent on Rhythm," (formerly "Swingaroo Sweethearts").

Warners

Finished: "Roughly Speaking," "Hollywood Canteen."
Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Objective Burma."

Review

"Enemy of Women"

(Monogram)

HOLLYWOOD, *Aug. 27.*

W. R. FRANK, the independent exhibitor, who made this film, is apparently a man who believes in changing horses in mid-stream. The picture, originally titled "The Life and Loves of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels," starts out with that theme, but switches abruptly to tell of a routine love story between two routine people: Maria Brandt, played by Claudia Drake, who gives a phlegmatic performance, and Dr. Hans Trager, portrayed without distinction by Donald Woods.

The documentary character of the early reaches of the picture give it an impetus of interest which is, unfortunately, not sustained throughout. Paul Andor, as Goebbels, never succeeds in making him a convincing villain. His characterization lacks the subtlety which the real Goebbels must undoubtedly possess in order to have achieved his present notoriety.

The story, by Alfred Zeisler and Herbert O. Phillips, who also wrote the screenplay, tells of Goebbel's early repulses at the hands of Miss Drake and her father, and how, when the propaganda minister becomes powerful, he wreaks revenge by having the father shot and sending Miss Drake's husband to freedom in Switzerland at the cost of her own virtue. She is relieved from having to pay the price by a fortunately-timed British bomb.

Fred W. Kane is named as associate producer, and Zeisler directed. Others in the cast, all of whom have minor parts, include: H. B. Warner, Sigrid Gurie, Ralph Morgan, Gloria Stuart and Robert Barrat.

Running time, 86 min. "G."* Release date, Oct. 21.

THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

McKay Files Answer In Schine Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

mitted by the defendants are for the purpose of trial only and are subject to all objections.

The answer disclosed that an agreement earlier this year between Schine Lexington Corp. and Leon B. Scott, to operate the Margie Grand Theatre, Harlan, Ky., during Scott's service in the armed forces was voided because Scott's induction did not take place. The agreement consequently did not take effect.

Yesterday, McKay signified his intention of being in court on Monday, the 28th, to move the court to strike from its files notice of taking depositions and motions advanced by M. K. Murphy, Applachia, Va., and his attorney, M. M. Heuser, on the grounds that they are not parties to the action.

Harrell Opens, Fire Closes

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 27.—The Moncks Corner, S. C., theater, operated by R. B. Harrell, only recently opened, was gutted by fire.

Warners, Paramount Financing Plays

Warner Bros. and Paramount set deals at the weekend to participate in the financing of Broadway plays with the idea of acquiring film rights.

Jack Warner bought the screen rights to "The Visitor," which Herman Shumlin will produce, opening here on Oct. 9. The play is based on a novel of the same name by Carl Randall and Leane Zugsmith. Warners will also participate in the financing of the stage production.

John Byram and Russell Holman of Paramount completed a deal with the Theatre Guild for Paramount to take a half interest for approximately $50,000 in "Swing Out, Sweet Land." The company already has a financial interest in the play "Perfect Marriage" which is to be produced by Cheryl Crawford starring Miriam Hopkins and Victor Jory, and has invested $45,000 in "Sadie Thompson," the musical version of "Rain" which A. P. Waxman is producing.

20th Will Produce in England: Schenck

(*Continued from page* 1)

be produced and directed by Hawks as well.

Whatever is produced in England will be made with the world market in view, stated Schenck. Under English law, supporting casts will be predominantly British, but there is a possibility an American star will appear in the first picture.

Schenck also added 20th Century-Fox will finance production in Mexico City for Latin-American markets. The first will be "Conto Clarao" to be directed by Julio Bracho, winner of a Mexican academy award. Space has been leased at the Azteca Studios, Mexico City.

Universal Sets Up International Corp.

(*Continued from page* 1)

tions doing 95 per cent of their business abroad are exempt from the U. S. excess profits levy. When the subsidiaries thus formed pay dividends to the parent companies, they are taxed only 15 per cent, while the tax on direct operations of the unexempt is 40 per cent.

Joseph H. Seidelman, Universal vice-president in charge of foreign sales, has been elected president of the company's new foreign corporation, which, with headquarters in New York, has taken over all of "U's" foreign assets and holdings of Universal Pictures and will handle and control all of its foreign operations, according to the announcement.

Alfred A. Daff, foreign supervisor, is UIF vice-president; Charles A. Kirby, assistant foreign manager, is secretary; Raymond M. Miles, treasurer, and Pierre Ludwig, assistant treasurer.

Paramount was the second distributor to set up a foreign holding company, announcing the formation of Paramount International Films, Inc., with John W. Hicks as president, last month.

Joseph Realigns 'U' Field Staff

(*Continued from page* 1)

his former position as publicity-advertising representative in that territory.

Harry Keller, who has been Midwest publicity representative after serving as special representative in the home office, will again resume an assignment in the New York publicity headquarters, where he will handle premieres and openings.

Other changes announced by Joseph include the appointment of Charles Simonelli as traveling field exploitation representative. Simonelli has been in the home office publicity department for the past two years, where he handled radio and special events.

Resigned from the field exploitation staff are: Eddie Bonns, Southern publicity representative; Al Selig, who had been assigned to Washington; George Fishman, Philadelphia representative and Fred Marshall, Pittsburgh representative.

In announcing these changes Joseph stated that Universal's new plant for exploitation would center in the home office and that outside of Chicago and Boston the company would not maintain any permanent representatives in the field, but instead, home office representatives would visit the territory.

Schaefer Back from Hawaii; Coming East

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—George J. Schaefer, national chairman of the War Activities Committee, arrived here at the weekend from Hawaii, where he surveyed the film situation for the U. S. Navy. He will leave for New York next Friday to make a report to the WAC.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 27

M-G-M has a record number of pictures currently in work. Ten are shooting at the studio, and one unit is on location. Latest to go before the cameras is "Telltale Hands," a melodrama featuring Edward Arnold, under direction of Edward Cahn and produced by Jerry Bresler. Others in work include: Wallace Beery's "Airship Squadron 4"; "Music for Millions," starring Margaret O'Brien; "The Clock," which stars Judy Garland and Robert Walker, and "Ziegfeld Follies."

•

Jack Haley will be starred in "You'll Be the Death of Me," original by Dan Mainwaring. It will be the second for him under his recent contract with Paramount producers William Pine and William Thomas. The first will be "People Are Funny." . . . Ernest Truex will be featured in "Pan-Americana," which John H. Auer is producing and directing for RKO. . . . Edgar Buchanan has been assigned by Columbia to one of the leads in "Counterattack," which Zoltan Korda will produce. . . . Audrey Totter will make her screen debut in the romantic lead in M-G-M's "Telltale Hands"....

•

Sydney Greenstreet, named as a winner in *Motion Picture Herald's* "Stars of Tomorrow" poll, has one of his first comedy roles in "Pillar to Post," which Alex Gottlieb is producing for Warners. . . . Harry Davenport has been set by W. R. Frank for a top role in his production, "A Boy, a Girl, and a Dog." . . . Henry Blankfort has been signed by Universal to a writer-associate producer deal. . . . Mantan Moreland has been signed for the lead comedy role in two more of the Charlie Chan series at Monogram.

Kovacs' Motion Denied

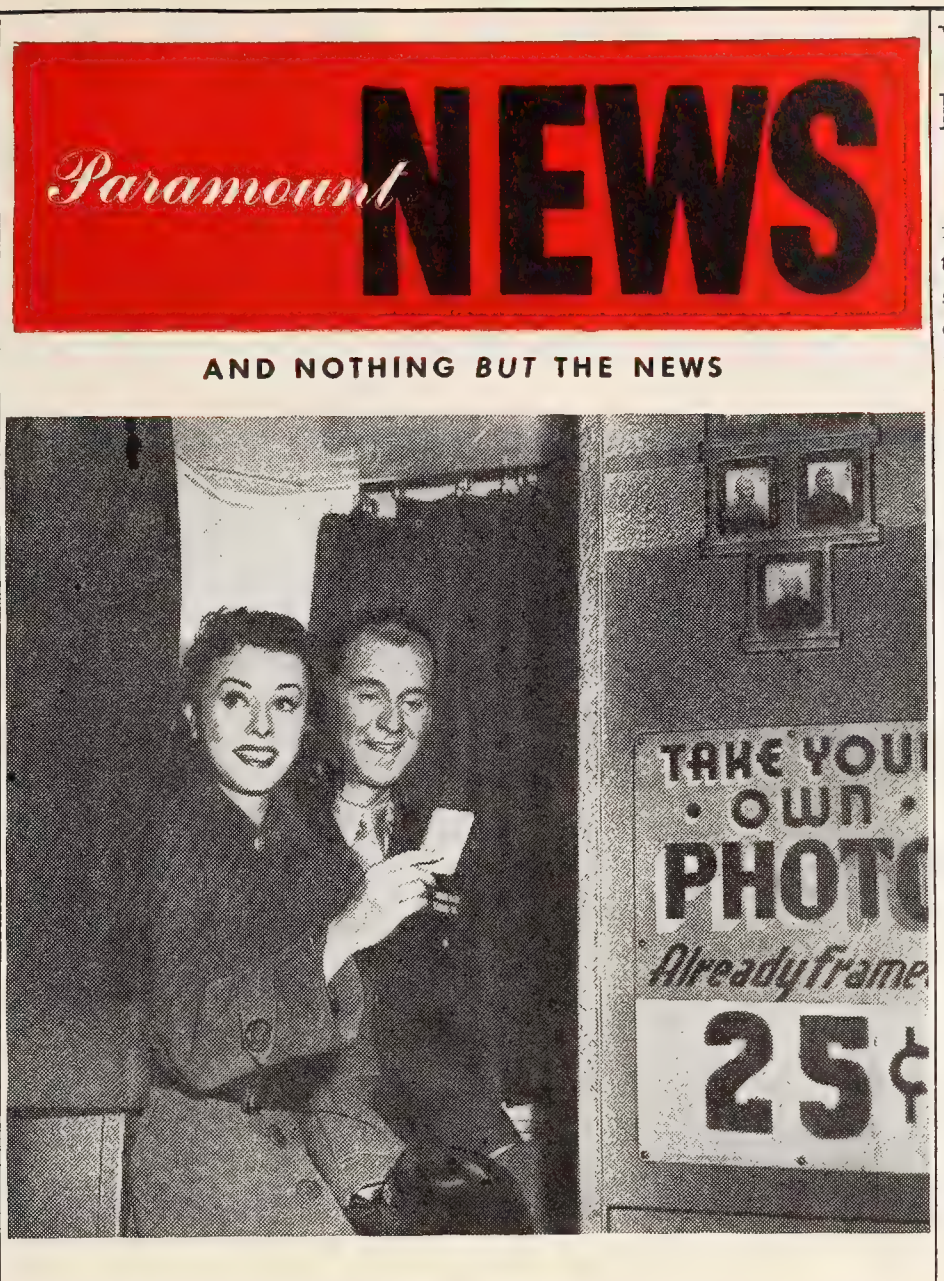
LOS ANGELES, Aug. 27.—Judge Emmitt H. Wilson denied Edward Kovacs' motion for a temporary order restraining Sydney Williams, Republic producer, from making "Next Comes Love," at the weekend. He also refused to rule on the studio's motion to be exempted from the suit. He said the whole matter would be heard in Superior Court later.

Jensen Heads 'World'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—E. Jensen has been named director of the Hollywood Free World Association, membership of which includes a large number of individuals in production. Jensen succeeds Ulric Bell, who is now in New York as national director of Americans United for World Organization.

Double 'Prayer' Opening

"Wing and a Prayer," 20th Century-Fox's story of 'Carrier X,' will have its New York premiere at the Globe and Gotham Theatres here simultaneously on Wednesday. The film was produced with the cooperation of Navy, the entire action taking place aboard an aircraft carrier.



Video Witnesses to File by Sept. 11

Sept. 11 has been set as the deadline for persons and organizations to notify the Federal Communications Commission of intention to testify at hearings, commencing Sept. 28, on FCC postwar frequency allocation policies for television and other forms of radio communication.

Information obtained at the hearings will be considered by the FCC in determining the frequency requirements of U. S. non-governmental broadcasters, and in making recommendations to the State Department for international radio agreements, to the Interdepartmental Radio Advisory Committee, to Government radio services and to Congress.

The proceedings, it is said, may start the most sweeping revision since radio began, with the entire spectrum, ranging from 10 to 30,000,000 kc., being covered. At a hearing held this month by the State Department, it was suggested that allocations for broadcasting services be set by Dec. 1.

The September hearings will be open to the radio and film industries and the Government. A complete review is sought in view of advances in television and radio during the war, as well as greatly increased demands for their use, an FCC order points out.

As published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Aug. 18, 65 applications from 24 states for permission to build commercial television stations are now pending before the FCC, with many more expected before the Government raises the war-time ban against television building. Warners, first major film company to file for such facilities in Hollywood, is reportedly negotiating for a studio site.

Armour to Leave for Film Envoy Post

Reginald Armour, who has been named the first of the industry's foreign 'ambassadors' under the new MPPDA plan to place industry 'envoys' in foreign capitals, to watch U. S. film interests now and in the postwar, will leave shortly for London.

No other assignments of envoys is contemplated immediately since Armour will function in all countries of Western Europe including France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy and other countries as they are liberated.

Appointment of Armour was made at a recent meeting of the MPPDA board of directors. Armour was formerly European manager for RKO and has held foreign and domestic posts with Walt Disney.

Petrillo Recording Ban Goes to Vinson

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Refusal of the American Federation of Musicians, AFL, to comply with an order by the War Labor Board to lift its ban on recording for three companies was referred at the weekend to Fred M. Vinson, Stabilization Director.

The companies for which James C. Petrillo's union has refused to record are Victor, Columbia and the radio recording division of NBC.



What goes on in there?

TO the industry, this building—our Hollywood laboratory—brings to mind the peacetime work carried on there for the improvement of sound in motion pictures. Behind its doors today, engineers of the Electrical Research Products Division are working on important devices for theatres of war.

At present these new developments must be nameless. But out of them should come technical advances of great value in making post-war sound recording and reproduction finer than any known to date.

Electrical Research Products Division
OF
Western Electric Company
INCORPORATED
195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

★ SPEED THE DAY OF VICTORY BY BUYING WAR BONDS — MORE WAR BONDS — AND STILL MORE! ★

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 41 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO FILM COPYRIGHT RENEWAL

Depinet Heads Distributors in 6th War Loan

Bamberger Also to Serve For His Third Drive

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio Pictures, who, as chairman of the distributors division of the industry's War Activities Committee, also piloted the activities of the distributors during the Fourth and Fifth War Loan Campaigns, has agreed to serve in that capacity for the forthcoming Sixth War Loan, scheduled to begin on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, and run through Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7.



Ned E. Depinet

Leon J. Bamberger, general as-

(Continued on page 6)

Chicago Beats Delinquency

CHICAGO, Aug. 28. — Closer supervision on the part of theater owners and stricter enforcement of the law have improved the juvenile delinquency problem in theaters in this area. In the local headquarters of Allied of Illinois which has its eye on some 150 theaters, few exhibitor complaints on damages caused by unruly youngsters are being received.

Typical of the method of attack

(Continued on page 6)

Shift Film Unit of CIAA in 6 Weeks

Action is expected within six weeks to two months on the transference of the film activities of the U. S. Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to either Hemisphere Films or else some Government agency like the State Department or Department of Commerce. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, stated in Washington recently

(Continued on page 6)

Troops Move Fast, So Do Films

Despite difficulties in keeping pace with fast-moving French fronts, the U. S. Army Pictorial Service, distributors of the industry's gift films, is supplying films to the troops fighting there, averaging 530 shows a night on the Northern French Front alone, according to Lt. Col. Sidney Lund, back in the U. S. from a tour of the French invasion.

Although no elaborate distribution system has been set up for troops in the liberated areas as yet, Col. Lund revealed an exchange has been established in a tent south of Cherbourg, where a shipment of films from England is received weekly.

Lower Price Effect Slight

Lowering of theatre admission prices for children aged 12 to 16, which went into effect at New York neighborhood houses Friday and Saturday, resulted in little or no increased attendance from that class, a check of weekend business indicated yesterday.

A spokesman for Loew's Theatres, many of which were playing "Once Upon a Time," which is considered to

(Continued on page 6)

Holdovers Score at N. Y. First Runs; 'Kismet' Sets Mark

Continued cool weather is booming box offices of downtown New York theatres this week, with holdover films scoring impressively despite the length of their runs. "Kismet," which opened at the Astor last Tuesday to capacity business continues to draw heavily with the first full week's gross running close to a record $39,500.

New records at the Roxy, Music Hall and Capitol are still being set or approached, as "Wilson," "Dragon Seed" and "Since You Went Away," respectively, continue to draw despite their heavy attendance for several weeks. Fourth week of "Wilson" at the Roxy, with Fred Waring and his musical aggregation on the stage, is expected to bring about $122,000, giving that theatre close to $500,000 for the four weeks. A sixth week's gross of $120,000 is expected by the Music Hall with "Dragon Seed" and a stage show, to give that house about $737,000 in six weeks. "Since You Went Away" is expected to bring $80,000 in the

(Continued on page 7)

Burrows Studying Stock Production

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Final details of the cuts in raw stock allocations which the film industry must bear for the next two or three months may be worked out tomorrow following the return from Rochester of Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the

(Continued on page 6)

Fears Decree May End Film 'Bargaining'

MPTOA Analyzes Govt.'s New Decree Proposals

Warning that the anti-block booking proposal of the Department of Justice's recent program for amending the consent decree may result in establishing an inflexible fixed price for every picture, thereby eliminating all price negotiations between exhibitors and distributors, the MPTOA in a bulletin made public here yesterday asserts that the Department of Justice clause "should be clarified to prevent such a disastrous result."

The MPTOA bulletin discusses each of the Department's decree proposals individually, contributing views which suggest the possibility that several of them, notably, those relating to clearance and future acquisition of

(Continued on page 6)

Would Narrow Academy Vote

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—If the new directorate to be elected next month approves, voting for future Academy Awards will be confined to those groups which have representation among winners. This will mean the elimination of extras, unit managers, assistant directors, and screen story analysts, and reduce ballots from an average of 10,000 to about 6,000.

The move is evidently designed to

(Continued on page 7)

Says Goldwyn Story 'Unfair' to Theatres

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Contending that publicity attendant upon Samuel Goldwyn's recent leasing of a Reno, Nev., dance hall in which to exhibit his "Up in Arms" when a deal could not be negotiated there with T. & D. Enterprises, Inc., has been "unfair" to exhibitors, Allied States in a bulletin released here today urged that the "whole story should be told."

(MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 24

(Continued on page 6)

French Patriots 'Shot' the Nazis in Paris; Films Enroute to U. S. Newsreels

First newsreel shots of the dramatic and sniping entry of American troops into Paris, and actual scenes in the city during the last days of the German occupation are en route here according to a cable received here yesterday from Ned Buddy, European manager of the U. S. newsreel pool in Europe, to Walton Ament, RKO Pathe News editor.

The shots, Ament said, will go directly to the War Department in Washington for development and review before release. French patriot cameramen, Buddy said, many formerly employed in France by American newsreel companies, took many of the scenes, in hidden spots, during the last days of the German occupation and turned them over to the pool upon being contacted by Buddy when he arrived in Paris with Allied forces. It is expected that the films will be ready for American theatres within a week, and are expected to be featured by all five newsreel companies.

In response to a question as to what preparations the U. S. newsreel pool is making for the reported meeting of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in conjunction with "a triumphal Allied march" into the city, Ament said that the event, if one should take place, will be fully covered by the newsreels, but that no advance planning has taken place, to his knowledge.

Theatre Video Is Predicted

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—Television theatre service may become a necessary corallary to television broadcating to the home, T. A. M. Craven, former commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission, will tell the 22nd annual meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters at the Palmer House here tomorrow morning.

Experience in foreign countries indicates that the public may become interested in viewing television in a theatre, he will say, adding: This, in turn, indicates potential commercial possibilities for such a service.

"If television receivers are costly as compared to the average person, it seems almost inevitable that television theatres will become a reality. Broadcasters should be ready to undertake this service," Craven will point out, saying that "if they don't someone else will."

"Ways and means to coordinate broadcasting to the home as well as to the theatre must be planned and such plans need not be unfeasible."

BalabanTestimony in Hillside Suit Delayed

Pre-trial examination of Barney Balaban, Paramount president, in the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies, scheduled here for yesterday, has been delayed by the prolonged testimony of Adolph Zukor, chairman of Paramount's board of directors.

Zukor, who gave depositions three days last week and two the week before, is scheduled to testify further today in the offices of Hays, Podell and Schulman, the plaintiff's attorneys. No new date has yet been set for the examination of Balaban, which will be followed by that of Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. Preliminary testimony from Hays was taken over a long period in the Spring. Plaintiff's attorneys hope to bring the case to trial before Jan. 1.

Exhibitor Vote Saves 'Tomorrow theWorld'

Lester Cowan has decided to retain the title "Tomorrow the World" for his film production of the stage play of that name after taking a poll of 8,123 exhibitors throughout the U. S. and Canada, United Artists Cowan's distributors, reported here yesterday. Some 63 percent were for the original title, while 32 percent favored "The Intruder," which had been Cowan's preliminary choice, and the rest made alternate suggestions or were noncommittal.

In a poll of 100 trade and newspaper critics, taken at the same time, 72 percent voted for "Tomorrow the World."

Personal Mention

MAJOR CLARK GABLE and CARTER BARRON, Loew's Eastern division manager, narrowly escaped injury when their car was struck by a truck, during the actor's visit to Washington at the weekend.

•

AL MICHALSKI, manager of the Circle, Manchester, Conn., and his bride, the former YVONNE KERRY of the Warner Theatre, Lynn, Mass., have returned to Manchester following their marriage Aug. 13 and a trip to Boston.

•

JOHN J. PAYETTE, Warner zone manager in Washington, returned there this week from Coast studio conferences.

•

MORTON ROSEN, owner of the Windsor and Monroe Theatres, Baltimore, has entered Sinai Hospital there for an operation.

•

ROBERT RISKIN, director of the Office of War Information overseas film bureau, returned yesterday from a two-week vacation.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS of Warner Theatres left last night for Chicago and Cleveland.

•

I. M. RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, is in New York for several days.

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, and general sales manager, will return home tomorrow from a Boston visit. EDWARD WALTON, his executive assistant and assistant general sales manager, who accompanied him, will return at the weekend.

•

WILLARD S. MCKAY, counsel for Schine Chain Theatre, Inc., was in Buffalo yesterday, from New York, for a Federal Court appearance in connection with the Government's anti-trust suit against the circuit.

•

RAY MURRAY, Columbia home office trade-press contact, has left on a vacation with his bride, the former CHARLOTTE SAMPSON.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal Eastern sales manager, will visit in Washington today and from there will go to Pittsburgh.

•

MAX M. KORR, Allentown, Pa., exhibitor, is the father of a daughter, JUDITH ELLEN, born last week at St. Luke's Hospital, Bethlehem, Pa.

•

RICHARD H. HOFFMAN of Hillman fan publications, has left for a four-day holiday at Grossinger's in the Catskills.

•

DEAN BARRETT, manager of Warner's Lennox, Hartford, Conn., is vacationing at Cape Cod, Mass.

UA Opens Office In Near East

United Artists yesterday disclosed it has opened a new office in Algiers. Walter Gould, UA foreign manager, said it gives impetus to its plans for expanding its distribution in North Africa and the Near East. George Soulat has been appointed manager of this branch, which will distribute UA product in Algeria, Tunis and Morocco. Gould also reported that Al Lowe, general manager in South Africa, had arrived in Egypt to survey possibilities for the early establishment of offices in Palestine and Syria.

Columbia to Handle 'War' Distribution

Columbia will distribute "The War Speeds Up," Army Pictorial Service two-reeler, beginning Sept. 7. Col. Emanuel Cohen supervised production.

The War Activities Committee reported here yesterday that prints of the film have been shipped by plane to the West Coast in order to meet the Sept. 7 release date.

Report Chevalier Killed

Maurice Chevalier, French musical comedy star and one time popular motion picture player in this country, is reported to have been killed by French patriots for reputedly collaborating with Nazi occupation forces in Paris, according to a Reuters dispatch reaching here yesterday in London.

Louis B. Mayer Hurt In Fall from Horse

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 28.—Louis B. Mayer, vice president in charge of M-G-M production, suffered a broken pelvic bone and is in considerable pain following an injury sustained while riding horseback at his ranch near Hemet, Cal., on Sunday. His condition was not regarded as critical by Dr. Donald W. Blanche of the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, where Mayer is a patient.

Woodin Resigns, Goes Back to Theatres

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—Larry Woodin, formerly director of publicity for Republic Studio, has resigned from his post and is returning to Pennsylvania to look after his theatre interests. He is associated in business with his father, William L. Woodin, who has been handling matters during his son's stay in Hollywood.

Goldstein Resigns From 20th-Fox Post

Jack Goldstein, publicity manager at 20th Century-Fox's home office for the past two years, has resigned, effective Oct. 1, it was announced here yesterday by Hal Horne, director of advertising, publicity and promotion. Horne expressed regret on the resignation.

Goldstein has been for many years a film company and theatre publicist and exploiteer.

RKO Sets Showings For Five New Films

Five RKO productions for 1944-45 will be trade shown nationally starting Sept. 18.

"None But the Lonely Heart" will be screened Sept. 18 at all exchanges except Los Angeles and New York where it will be shown Sept. 20 and St. Louis where the screening has been set for Sept. 19. "The Master Race" screening will be Sept. 20, except Los Angeles, St. Louis and New York where it will be Sept. 21. "Tall in the Saddle" will be screened Sept. 19 at all exchanges except St. Louis where it will be held Sept. 20 and Los Angeles, where the showing will be Sept. 22.

"My Pal, Wolf" has been set for Sept. 19, except Denver, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Sioux Falls where the screenings will be Sept. 18 and Los Angeles and New York where the film will be shown Sept. 20. "Going to Town" will be trade shown Sept. 19 except St. Louis where it will be shown Sept. 20, and Los Angeles and N. Y. where it will be Sept. 21.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
FRANK SINATRA
GEORGE MURPHY
ADOLPHE MENJOU
"STEP LIVELY"

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'BATHING BEAUTY'
Red SKELTON
EstherWILLIAMS
IN PERSON
ARTHUR TRACY
Added Attraction
RADIO ROGUES

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PAY OFF IN THE PACIFIC!
WING AND A PRAYER
"THE STORY OF CARRIER X"
20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
TOMORROW! 8.30 A.M.
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46 St.
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'way & 47 St.

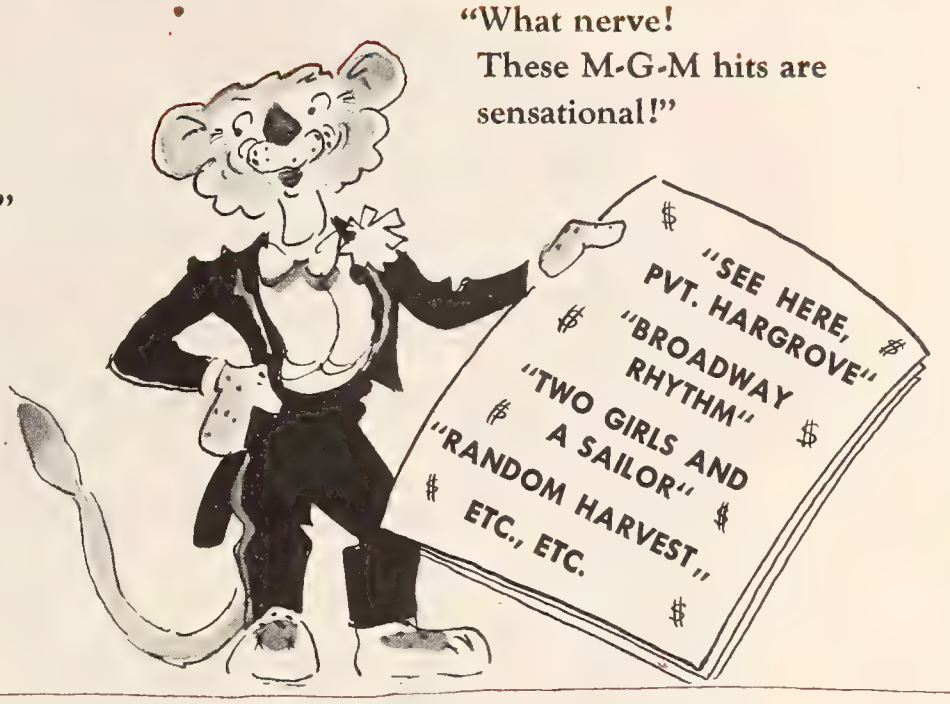
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MANY HAPPY RETURNS!



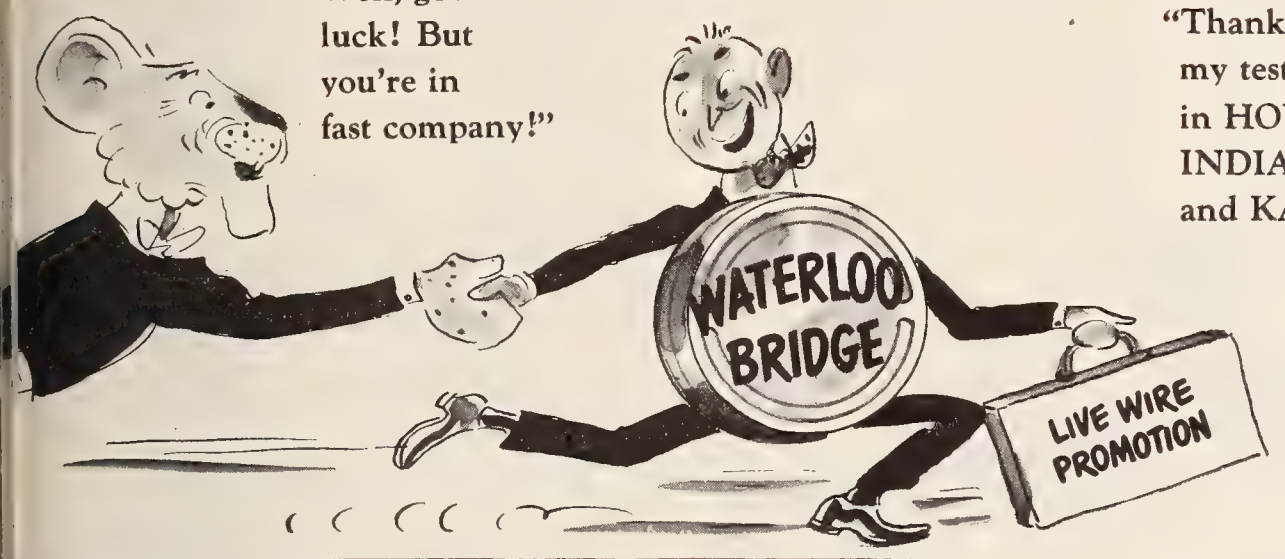
"Hey Leo, let me take a crack at some of that BIG DOUGH!"

"What nerve! These M-G-M hits are sensational!"



"Well, good luck! But you're in fast company!"

"Thanks Leo, I'm off to my test engagements in HOUSTON, COLUMBUS, INDIANAPOLIS, MEMPHIS and KANSAS CITY."



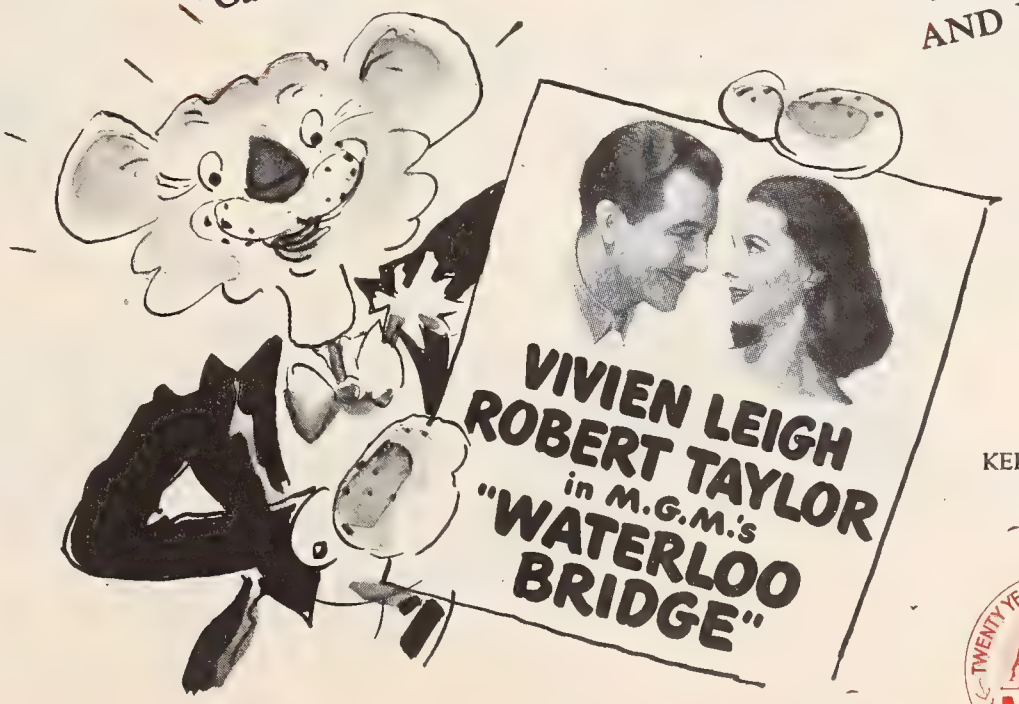
KANSAS CITY CALLING:
Beats "Broadway Rhythm," "2 Girls and a Sailor," "Gaslight." Equals "Hargrove"

MEMPHIS CALLING:
Beats "Hargrove," "Broadway Rhythm," "2 Girls and a Sailor," "Gaslight" AND HELD OVER!

HOUSTON CALLING:
Beats "Random Harvest," "Gaslight," "2 Girls and a Sailor" AND HELD OVER!

INDIANAPOLIS CALLING:
Beats "Broadway Rhythm," "For Me and My Gal"

COLUMBUS CALLING:
Beats the Biggest.



KEEP SELLING BONDS

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP 1924–1944 MGM

YOU'VE GOT TO BE GOOD TO BE A LEADER FOR TWENTY YEARS!

THE MILLION DOLLAR PEER OF THE YEAR
. . . IN MUSICAL COMEDIES!

ATLANTIC CIT

starring

CONSTANCE MOORE
and **BRAD TAYLOR**

CHARLEY GRAPEWIN • JERRY COLONNA
and ROBERT B. CASTAINE · ADELE MARA
PAUL WHITEMAN and Orchestra
LOUIS ARMSTRONG and his Band
with BUCK & BUBBLES and DOROTHY DANDRIDGE

plus

Belle BAKER the voice that thrilled millions . . . the 'Queen of the High C's'

Joe FRISCO the original 'Jitterbug' who sang 'K-K-Katy' with every gag

GALLAGHER & SHEAN (Jack Kenny & Al Shean) A detour to the 'Ziegfeld Follies' • 'Positively Mr. Gallagher, Absolutely, Mr. Shean'

VAN & SCHENCK (Gus Van & Charles Marsh) The 'Sinatra' & 'Bing' of yesterday.

RAY McCAREY Director • Original Story by ARTHUR CAESAR • Screenplay by DORIS GILBERT • FRANK GILL, Jr. • GEORGE CARLETON BROWN

















Remember

"BY THE SEA"
"AIN'T MISBEHAVIN' "
"AFTER YOU'VE GONE"
"I AIN'T GOT NOBODY"
"NOBODY'S SWEETHEART"
"ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON"
"MR. GALLAGHER AND MR. SHEAN"
"WHO PUT THE BIRD ON NELLIE'S HAT"
"DARKTOWN STRUTTERS' BALL"

You'll Hear These--and More in "Atlantic City"

REPUBLIC MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA!

Fears Decree May End Film 'Bargaining'

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatres, as well as the anti-block booking provision, may affect exhibitors adversely.

The bulletin also reminds exhibitors that negotiations for a new decree between the Department and the five decree companies still may be resumed, but if they are not, there is nothing in the present decree situation which promises a final determination short of litigation which may consume "several years."

Expressing no opinion on whether or not the Department's anti-block booking proposal would or would not require single picture selling, the MPTOA bulletin asserts that that type of selling would be permissible under the Department's proposal.

Bulletin Defines Product License

"If distributors wish to," the bulletin says, "they may license their product one at a time or any other way they please just so long as they do not condition the licensing of one picture or group of pictures on another."

The bulletin continues: "The question of price inducement to get an exhibitor to take more than one picture, or to discourage an exhibitor from picking out the most desirable picture, may become an issue in the ultimate legal interpretation of this provision by the courts. If it should be found eventually that the licensing of one feature is "conditioned" on the licensing of another feature if the price is raised on the one unless the other is licensed; or that an excessive asking price will only come down if both pictures are licensed, then the exhibitor may be faced with an inflexible adherence to the asking price on every picture under penalty of fine and imprisonment for the distributor who reduces the price or terms first quoted on every picture.

Clarification of Clause Needed

"This clause should be clarified to prevent such a disastrous result; otherwise an unpredictable interpretation of the word 'conditioned' by the courts can force the distributors to maintain under penalty minimum prices on every feature and do away entirely with the present negotiation by exhibitors over prices and terms of licensing."

Commenting on the Department's proposals concerning clearance the bulletin observes: ". . . if you operate a theatre under a beneficial clearance and a competing exhibitor proves that that clearance unreasonably restrains his competition with you, then that clearance may be eliminated."

On the proposed prohibition of further theatre acquisitions the bulletin says: "It would seem that this provision is of great importace to 'independent chains' even though they are not parties to this procedure. If this provision becomes law, why could it not be carried over to all situations, independent as well, where it is felt that further acquisition of theatres or interests will unreasonably restrain competition?"

In support of this view the bulletin quotes the reply of Attorney General Francis Biddle to a question put to him on the subject by MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Biddle's reply was: "It is the purpose of the Department to correct all abuses and violations of the act. There will be no preference shown."

Says Goldwyn Story 'Unfair' to Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

published statements giving the theatre's side of the story which were made by R. A. McNeil, T. & D. executive, and N. D. Thompson, T. & D. district manager at Reno.)

The Allied bulletin said: "By this publicity stunt Goldwyn planted in all the leading newspapers the idea that the exhibitors of the country were unfairly barring his pictures from their screens. But the screens are all occupied by somebody's pictures and if only the Goldwyn pictures are absent the fair inference is that his terms are exorbitant. . . . The story as published is unfair to exhibitors, certainly to the great majority of them, and we hope the press will see fit to give some space to the other side of the story."

SIMPP Takes No Action On Monopoly Charges

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28. — Although sympathetic, the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers thus far, at least, has taken no official action on the theatre monopoly charges focalized by Samuel Goldwyn in the current Reno fight against the T. and D. circuit, although Goldwyn is a member of SIMPP and Walter Disney, another member, has lined up with Goldwyn. John C. Flinn represented the SIMPP in Reno and collaborated on press relations "only as an observer," he said upon his return today.

Burrows Studying Stock Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

War Production Board, motion picture section.

Burrows went to Rochester at the end of last week to discuss the raw film production situation with film manufacturers there, and to secure from them data regarding output, now, and through the next several months, to be correlated with information regarding consumption which is being worked out by the representatives of distributors in New York.

If all the necessary information becomes available within the next day or two, it is probable that the industry's advisory committee may be called from New York to Washington early next week to talk about specific quotas for prints.

Stadium Gets 640 Blood Donations

The Stadium Theatre in Brooklyn, a Randforce circuit house, in conjunction with the Red Cross drive for blood donors, was responsible for 640 appointments last week, it was reported yesterday by Emanuel Frisch, circuit executive.

Lower Price Effect Slight

(*Continued from page* 1)

have a strong appeal for youthful customers, said business in general was good throughout the circuit but knew of no unusual influx of the 12 to 16 year-olds. He observed that children, like adults, have a lot of money to spend these days and will go to any picture they want to see, regardless of the price. "If they get in for 20 instead of 40 cents," he said, "they'll spend the other on something else."

Century Circuit houses likewise played, over the weekend, to about the same number of children as on weekends preceding, but a lack of increase was attributed, by Century, at least in part, to the fact that the lowered prices had not been very extensively advertised. "It resulted mainly in confusion," said a Century official, referring to the practice whereby customers in the 12 to 16 age group affected are sold children's admission tickets and also adults' Federal tax tickets, the latter because the tax law provides that the adult rate must begin at the age of 12.

Rate Effect on RKO Theatres

The new rates, on the other hand, had been widely advertised by RKO Theatres, yet they, also, noted little upturn in attendance. This was attributed in part, however, to the fact that most of the houses were showing "The Mask of Dimitrios" and "The Eve of St. Mark," both of which have a predominately adult appeal.

Although there was no increase in attendance to make up for the reduced revenue from children between 12 and 16, reports of weekend business showed that this made little difference in the total grosses.

Extension of the child admission class from age 12 to 16, long advocated by parent-teachers associations and other civic groups, was finally accomplished last week after Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia had spoken out in its favor in his radio broadcast of Sunday, April 20. He urged the step as a means of keeping children off the streets and felt it would thus help combat juvenile delinquency.

Depinet Again Heads Distributors' Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

sistant to Depinet on all War Activities affairs, will also serve his third term as assistant distributor chairman of the war loan campaign.

In a message of acceptance to Harry Brandt, national chairman for the motion picture industry in the 6th War Loan, Depinet stated: "There is a growing assumption on the part of a large segment of the population that the defeat of Germany will make a Sixth War Loan unnecessary. This, of course, is not true. Billions are needed for the attack on Japan and for the sustaining of the millions of men under arms. It is also necessary to combat inflation so that when these millions of men are demobilized, they will be able to come back to a sound economy."

'Way' Sets 2,420 Records

Paramount's "Going My Way" has set more than 2,420 theatre records in early first run phases, according to Paramount here.

Chicago Houses Beat Child Delinquency

(*Continued from page* 1)

employed by both circuits and independents in combatting the situation, which reached its peak about a year ago, is the campaign laid out by the Balaban and Katz circuit. More lights are used all over theaters at all times of operation; civilian guards are on hand to meet any situation as soon as it arrises; balcony furniture has been removed from all B. and K. houses. Most furniture damage has been made on balconies where not sufficient help was on duty.

A. L. Trebow, head of the purchasing department for B. and K., who has kept close watch on the situation, holds that the theater owners' decision to prosecute where prosecution is necessary has helped the problem a great deal. Other contributing factors to the improvements, as seen by Trebow, are the vast defense industries which have removed a maximum of boys and girls from the streets this Summer, and the draft law which has put in uniform many of the troublemakers of the past couple of years.

Shift Film Unit of CIAA in 6 Weeks

(*Continued from page* 1)

that his agency's numerous functions would eventually be transferred to permanent Government agencies to continue the Good-Neighbor policy. At the same time, Rockefeller made it clear that the transfer would be "one of the moves to readjust the wartime structure of the Government to a peacetime basis."

Though not a Government agency, Hemisphere had loomed as a possible successor to the CIAA film activities for some time. Set up as a corporation earlier this year under the Museum of Modern Art here it is described as "a charitable, non-profit organization under the Board of Regents of New York State." It has figured prominently in most discussions of transferring the CIAA film activities to a permanent set-up and the outlook is now described as more favorable than ever before for this action.

According to Rockefeller the CIAA has Federal Funds of $18,000,000 to continue operation until June 30, 1945. The agency's training, health and education programs have already been transferred to various permanent institutes so that the work of the agency created by President Roosevelt under executive order in August, 1940, to strengthen the Good-Neighbor policy in this hemisphere might continue.

RKO Cleveland Changes

CLEVELAND, Aug. 28.—Three changes in the RKO local exchange territory have been made by Bernard Kranze, district manager. Russell Brenglinger has succeeded Morris Lefko as Indianapolis branch manager; Otto Ebert has switched from the Indianapolis office manager's post to the Louisville sales force, and Paul Leatherby, former head booker in Indianapolis, has been named office manager there.

Would Narrow Academy Vote

(Continued from page 1)

eliminate the charge, recurringly heard that politics have been influencing awards through the studio's influence allegedly exercised on extras who have been holding the balance of voting power through their sheer weight of numbers.

The remaining approximate 6,000 will be comprised of senior members of the Screen Actors Guild and Screen Directors' and Screen Writers' Guilds and all Academy members including those in the following sections within the Academy which constitute the organization: Music, film editing, sound, photography, technicians and short subjects.

The new formula will apply to awards for the top actor, top actress, best production, best director and best writer. Technical and short subject awards will continue without change through the long-existing committee system.

Production Nominations Reduced

The nominations for the best production will be reduced from 10 to five, thereby making the contestants in this group numerically uniform with other major groups. The actual processes of determining nominations will remain unchanged in that the actors nominate for themselves as do writers and directors, while all eligible groups nominate for the best production. To rekindle recollections of eligible pictures which play theatres early in each voting year, all eligibilities are to be screened.

Sam Wood, Rosalind Russell and Seton I. Miller, as the committee which is submitting the proposals after several months' study, declare: 'By making all pictures included in nominations available at special screenings, we feel we will get a fairer and more equitable vote, for many pictures that seem outstanding when you first see them sometimes lose value in comparison with later pictures." Further, 'frequently pictures that were released early in year have grown in importance."

Covington House in Clearance Appeal

Richard Ernst Realty Co., operator of the Liberty, Madison and Broadway theatres, Covington, Ky., has appealed the dismissal of its clearance complaint against Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and RKO in the Cincinnati tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday. Another appeal was filed by Louis Weithe, operator of the Kentucy Theatre, Covington, as intervenor.

Complaint had alleged that the existing clearance of the Family and Shirley theatres in Covington over the complainant's theatres was unreasonable and asked that it be reduced to one day.

Legion Classifies Three New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1; 'San Fernando Valley," Republic, and 'Swing in the Saddle," Columbia; Class A-2, "Cheyenne Wildcat," Republic.

Reviews

"Lost in a Harem"

(M-G-M)

THE enticing title of this one is a bit optimistic. Abbott and Costello, fleeing from a sheik they have set out to dethrone, do spend a brief interlude hiding among his wives, but for the most part the harem got lost in the Harry Ruskin-John Grant-Harry Crane script. No matter though. The scripters, preferring generally to keep the boys behind bars, have provided some choice comedy for them there, and a sneak preview audience at Loew's Ziegfeld in New York bestowed many a laugh.

Much of the credit goes to Murray Leonard, who, as 'the Derelict,' a demented cellmate, teams with Bud and Lou in the time-honored choking routine that climaxes the story of how he murdered a man. Director Charles Riesner allows this to bob up dangerously often. All to the good, the sheik has also captured an orchestra which turns out to be Jimmy Dorsey's, and the wives, while short on amour, do nicely in several lavish ballet numbers, to which their conventional harem costumes lend a decided touch. And for amour, plus song, there's Marilyn Maxwell, arousing the worst in the tyrant, Douglas Dumbrille, because she's a blonde, but fortunately true only to John Conte, the inevitable rightful heir to the kingdom.

"Harem" is less knockabout and more solidly jointed than most Abbott-Costello vehicles. Many of the sequences actually fit into the plot, which turns on possession of two rings having hypnotic power. Needless to say, the co-stars spend considerable time hypnotized and, toward the end, get the rings on their fingers and Dumbrille under their spell. Their fans will not want to miss this three-quarters-mad excursion into the mystic East. George Haight has produced it with more care than formula plots often receive.

Running time, 89 minutes. "G."* Release in ninth block.

TOM LOY

"Kansas City Kitty"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Aug. 28

A FAST-MOVING little farce, "Kansas City Kitty," presents Joan Davis at her daffiest, and that is plenty daffy. Manny Seff's screenplay doesn't make much sense, and doesn't need to, since it is designed as a vehicle for Miss Davis' antics. As such, it serves its purpose admirably, providing her with witty dialogue and zany situations.

She is cast as the owner of a music publishing company whose sole asset is a song which is the subject of a plagiarism suit. Miss Davis' efforts to untangle the legal and financial mixup, and snare her boy friend, a reluctant dentist, at the same time, provide an hour of hilarious entertainment. Irving Briskin is credited with the production and Del Lord directed. Others who add to the merriment are Bob Crosby, Jane Frazee, Tim Ryan and the Williams Brothers. Several songs are scattered through the film, including the title song which is a 'hot' version of "The Old Oaken Bucket," and another titled "The Nothing Boogie from Nowhere."

Running time, 72 minutes. "G."* Release date, Aug. 24.

THALIA BELL

"Bordertown Trail"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Aug. 28

A SMILEY-BURNETTE-SUNSET CARSON starrer, "Bordertown Trail" is distinctly better-than-average Western fare. The story, by Bob Williams and Jesse Duffy, has elements of novelty and is worked out with care.

Smiley and Sunset are members of the border patrol which operates between the United States and the Republic of Texas. A great deal of gold is being smuggled into the Republic. The U. S. Government sends a troop of soldiers, led by Sunset's brother, to put a stop to it. They are unsuccessful in their efforts, however, and eventually it is the two cowboys who track down the smugglers and bring them to justice.

Ellen Lowe adds moments of comedy in her attempts to ensnare Smiley and Addison Richards is forceful as the leader of the smugglers. Louis Gray was associate producer and Lesley Selander directed.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date, Aug. 11.

T. B.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Holdovers Score at N. Y. First Runs; 'Kismet' Sets Mark

(Continued from page 1)

sixth week at the Capitol, with Gene Krupa and his band on the stage. The fifth week's gross was about $81,500, giving the house more than $500,000 in six weeks.

Business is good at the Strand where "Janie" and a stage bill are in a fourth and final week, for which $42,000 is expected; this will be close to the third week's $44,000. Warner's "Arsenic and Old Lace" and a stage bill featuring Charlie Barnet and his band will take over Friday. A third week's gross of $70,000 is expected for "Hail the Conquering Hero" at the Paramount, teamed with a Vaughn Monroe stage bill. The film will remain for a fourth week before making way for "Double Indemnity."

'In Society' Grosses $42,000

"In Society" did not establish a new house record at the Criterion in its first week but its $42,000 gross was big. The second week is expected to bring about $33,000, which is excellent; it will continue. Monogram's "Are These Our Parents?" is doing outstanding business at the Victoria, with $15,500 quoted for the first week ending last night; it, too, will continue.

"Mr. Skeffington" is expected to do about $16,500 in its final six days of a 14th week at the Hollywood, with "Doughgirls" taking over tomorrow. "The Story of Dr. Wassell" finished a 12th and final week at the Rivoli with a gross of about $27,000. "Till We Meet Again" will open at the Rivoli this morning.

'Step Lively's' $19,000

"Step Lively" is expected to give the Palace about $19,000 on a fifth week and two days of a sixth week before RKO's "Youth Runs Wild" takes over Friday. Final five days of a fifth week of "The Canterville Ghost" will give the Globe about $14,000, and the final four days of a ninth week of the "Dead End" reissue at the Gotham is expected to yield about $3,700. Twentieth Century-Fox's "Wing and a Prayer" will open at both theatres tomorrow.

"Atlantic City" is continuing to do good business at the Republic with $13,000 expected in a third week; it will hold over. A profitable $10,000 is expected for the first week of "The Pearl of Death" at the Rialto; it will hold.

Tibbett Heads AFRA; Group to Merge

CLEVELAND, Aug. 28.—Lawrence Tibbett, screen, radio and opera star, was yesterday reelected president of the American Federation of Radio Artists at the closing meeting of that organization's sixth annual convention here. This will be Tibbett's fifth term in the presidency.

A report favoring a merger of AFRA with Actors Equity, Screen Actors Guild, American Guild of Variety Artists and American Guild of Musical Artists, was approved by the convention.



"Check, Chick!

Right after the trade show, Chick Lewis predicted in a certain trade paper* that Paramount's modernized production of the screen's mightiest spectacle "MAY WELL TOP ITS ORIGINAL GROSSES." So what happens in its first test at the Texas, San Antone? . . . . . .

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**It's Chick Lewis' "Showmen's Trade Review," if you must know.*

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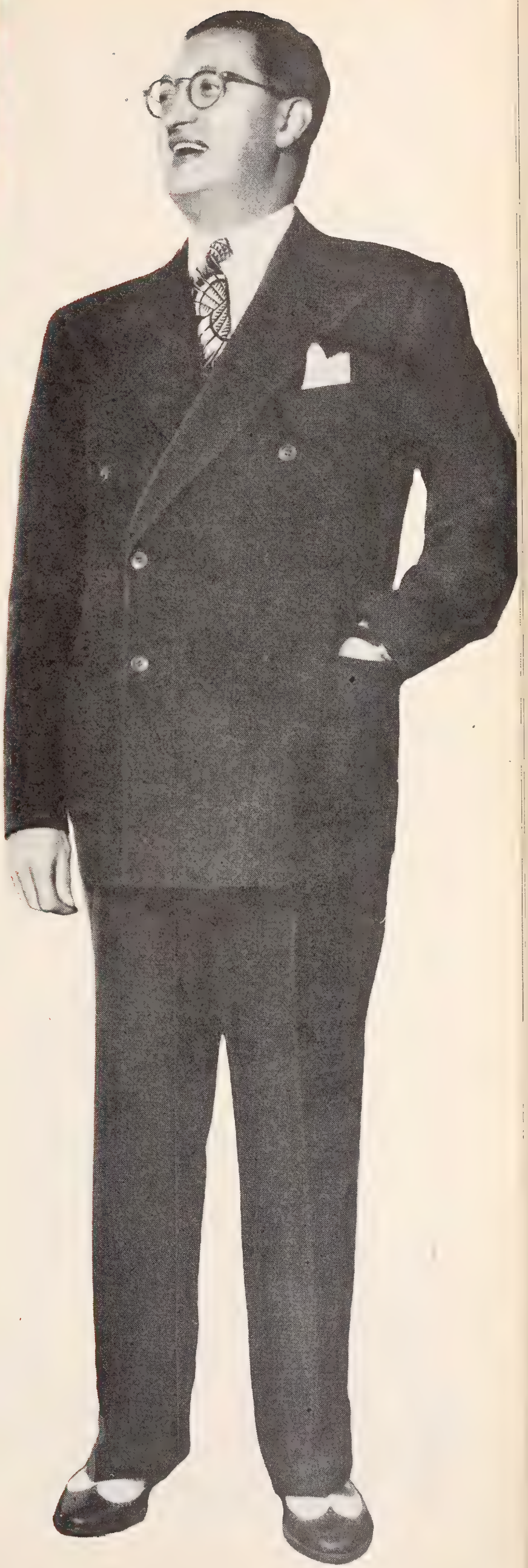
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y Way" • "Hail The Conquering
ro" • "I Love A Soldier" • "Story
Dr. Wassell" • "Double Indemnity"

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 28

THROUGH an arrangement between Selznick and Hal B. Wallis, William Dieterle will direct "The Love Letters," one of the first two of Wallis's production for Paramount. . . . William Bowers has been signed to a written contract by RKO. . . . Walter Lantz has seven of his "Cartunes" in various stages of production. . . . George Marshall will direct "My Favorite Brunette" for Paramount. . . . RKO has added "D-Day in Las Vegas," original by Herbert Lewis, to its schedule. . . . Faye Emerson has been assigned to the second feminine lead in Warners "Nobody Lives Forever."

•

Producers Corp. of America is preparing four for Fall production. "The Old West" is a story of the life of the American landscape painter, Frederic Remington, and will be filmed in color; "This Crazy, Lovely World," is based on a play by Ladislas Fodor, and Eric Pommer, the producer, plans to film portions of the picture in Mexico City; "The Devouring Angels" is the title of an adaptation of Zoe Akins' play, "The Greeks Had a Word for It"; "O'Brien's Navy" is a comedy with a seafaring background.

•

Producer Jeffrey Bernerd has signed Conrad Nagel for a featured role in "Divorce," first of the Kay Francis productions for Monogram. . . . Gail Russell will be co-starred with Alan Ladd in "Salty O'Rourke," which Raoul Walsh will direct for Paramount. . . . William Dozier has returned from Mexico and assumed his new duties as general production aide to Charles W. Koerner at RKO Radio. . . . Gene Lewis will produce "Song of the Sarong," musical with a tropical background, for Universal. . . . Barbara Brown has had her contract renewed by Warners. . . . Constance Purdy has been added to the cast of David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes." . . . Vernon Keays will direct the next Charles Starret starrer for Columbia, "Raiders of Quanto Basin."

•

Monogram producer Lindsley Parsons has his hands full this season, with four films completed and awaiting release and four others assigned to him for early production. Among those ready for release are: "Alaska," based on the Jack London story; "Adventures of Kitty O'Day," with Jean Parker, Peter Cookson and Tim Ryan, and "Army Wives," with Elyse Knox and Marjorie Rambeau. Those in preparation include a musical, "Rhythm Ranch;" a service comedy, "G. I. Honeymoon;" the first in a series to be based on the radio character, "The Shadow," and anothr in the "Kitty O'Day" series, as yet untitled.



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Reviews

"Pearl of Death"

(Universal)

BELYING its pennythriller title, "Pearl of Death" is a smoothly executed mystery film with Basil Rathbone exercising once again his deductive powers as the famous detective from Baker Street, Sherlock Holmes. Roy William Neill's forceful production and direction from the literate screenplay by Bertram Millhauser, make this one of the more attractive in the Universal series.

The urbane Rathbone is pitted against a cunning arch-criminal, Miles Mander, with the object of their tussle a fabulous pearl which Mander has snatched from its supposedly fool-proof niche in a London museum. Suspense mounts inexorably as a series of murders grips the city. After a narrow scrape from death, Rathbone concludes that the murders are linked with the missing pearl. Pursuit becomes hotter and finally the trail leads to a doctor's home where Rathbone confronts Mander and Rondo Hatton, a half-witted creature who has committed the murders at Hatton's behest. It seems that the pearl has been cached in a plaster bust of Napoleon, the last of which is owned by the doctor. Rathbone is almost doomed to a violent death when Hatton temporarily secures the upper hand, but a little applied psychology saves the day.

Rathbone is excellent as the detective and Nigel Bruce, as Doctor Watson, and Dennis Hoey, as a befuddled Scotland Yard man, prove able foils for Rathbone. Mander is properly menacing as the menace, while Evelyn Ankers is competent as his accomplice.

Running time, 69 minutes. "G"* Release date, Sept. 22.

CHARLES RYWECK

"One Mysterious Night"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Aug. 28

TED RICHMOND'S production does not meet the standard set by others of the "Boston Blackie" series. Paul Yawitz's story is a routine yarn about the theft of a valuable diamond, whose recovery Blackie effects after episodes which often lie beyond the bounds of credibility. The finale, for example, in which two members of the New York police force spend half-an-hour in a small, well-lighted room with the crooks, under the impression that the latter are clothing dummies, is pretty hard to swallow.

The cast, however, does its best under difficulties, and Oscar Boetticher's direction manages to sustain a certain amount of suspense. Chester Morris is at ease in his customary role and George E. Stone brings welcome moments of comedy to his part as Blackie's "sidekick." Dorothy Maloney is convincing as the thief's sister, and Joseph Crehan makes an effective, if brief, appearance.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G"* Release date, Sept. 21.

THALIA BELL

"Secret Mission"

(Hellman-English Films)

AN espionage melodrama of routine competence, produced by Marcel Hellman in 1942, has been taken out of the vaults for American exposure at what would seem to be the psychological time. With the French underground just having risen to take back Paris, showmen can play up the fact that this film illustrates some of the frightening spade work which made it all possible.

Underscored is the tough decision each Frenchman once faced: whether to collaborate with or sabotage the New Order, with Carla Lehmann struggling to make up her mind as the story unfolds. She is assisted by three items in the Anatole de Grunwald-Basil Bartlett screenplay; the death of her brother, James Mason, who comes back from England to do some spying; her first-sight love for Hugh Williams, English officer, and the revelation that under the rough Quisling exterior of Percy Walsh there lurks a patriot.

Sandwiched between the familiar Channel landing of the intelligence seekers and the familiar parachute landing of raiders for whom they pave the way is one superb sequence characteristic of director Harold French. In it, Williams and Mason, having an actors' field day, disguise themselves as champagne merchants, "friends of Goering," and enter German headquarters, heiling Hitler delightfully. And for straight comedy there's Michel Wilding, a Cockney, who doesn't object to freeing the French, but hates the thought of going back to his French wife.

Running time, 75 minutes. "G."* Release date, Aug. 29.

TOM LOY

*"G" denotes general classification.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 28

HARRY M. WARNER is expected to leave here Tuesday for New York.

•

Jerry Bresler expects to produce four other features for M-G-M this year following "Telltale Hands" now shooting. He will continue as general manager of the shorts production department, although a studio spokesman stated last week no successor has yet been named.

•

"Latin Quarter," an original story inspired by the liberation of Paris, has been announced as Gregor Rabinovitch's next production for United Artists. Puccini's score of "La Boheme" will play a prominent part in the musical motif of the film.

•

Harry Tugend received a new two-year writer-producer deal at Paramount. Hal Walker, director, received a new one-year contract from that studio.

•

Walter Lantz, cartoon producer will enter the advertising film production field after the war in an expansion move. He plans the formation of a new subsidiary.

•

Edward Small will follow "Abroad With Two Yanks" with "Two Yanks in Paris," again co-starring William Bendix and Dennis O'Keefe for United Artists release.

•

Pine-Thomas renewed Maxwel Shane's producer-writer contract. He will write and produce three, including "You'll Be the Death of Me."

•

Herb Morgan left for New York today following a conference on short subjects at the M-G-M studio.

•

Dalton Trumbo has signed a five year writing contract with M-G-M.

Russians Restore Equipment Plant

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. — Kinap film equipment unit in Leningrad USSR, has re-entered manufacturing after a two-year shutdown brought about by ravages of the Nazi invading armies in Russia, the U. S. Department of Commerce here reported yesterday. Mechanical and electric assembly departments have been completely restored, likewise the acoustics department.

Kinap will produce mobile motion picture units for the liberated towns of the Soviet.

Utility Workers Favor CHGU

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—The Council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions and the Motion Picture Alliance, long at swords points, met for the first time Sunday without the firing of a single shot. Both groups had been invited to explain their respective programs to the Studio Employees Local 724, composed of utility workers, which sought information on both programs before deciding on the affiliation which went against the MPA and to the Council

'Indemnity' Takes $13,300 in Toronto

TORONTO, Aug. 28.—"Double Indemnity" pointed to $13,300 at the Imperial here, while "The White Cliffs of Dover" was finishing off its fourth week at Loew's Theatres with an apparent $10,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 31:

"Nine Girls" (Col.)
"Hey, Rookie" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,078) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 5 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).

"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $11,200).

"Show Business" (RKO)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,800).

"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
"Pin Up Girl" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,800).

'Ghost's' $18,000 Is Baltimore Leader

BALTIMORE, Aug. 28.—Weekend crowds helped boost figures in all downtown houses, with the stronger attractions headed to do better than average. "The Canterville Ghost" tops the list with a safe $18,000 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 31:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,000).

"In Society" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,000).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Gene Baylos, Whitney Sisters, Five Jansleys, Frank & Jean Hubert, Carolyn Marsh. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500).

"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000).

J. H Ryan Advises on Radio Conversion

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—Reconversion of the radio industry to a peacetime basis, with special emphasis on overhauling news programs, will be one of the problems considered by the National Association of Broadcasters at its 22nd annual meeting now under way here, and running through Thursday, at the Palmer House, it is indicated in the annual report prepared by J. Harold Ryan, president.

"The wise radio station," says Ryan, "is at this time preparing for the period when the keen public interest in news will have become somewhat dulled and is now so building its news services that it will be prepared after the war to retain the interest of its listeners in the presentation of the news of a world at peace and thus play its part in maintaining peace throughout the world."

Review

"Storm Over Lisbon"

(Republic)

IN "Storm Over Lisbon," Republic has erected the costly scaffolding for an 'A' production; assembled a marquee-attractive cast that includes Richard Arlen, Erich Von Stroheim, Otto Kruger, Mona Barrie, and the extremely-decorative Vera Ralston; placed them in the intriguing atmosphere of Lisbon, with lavish sets and beautifully gowned-women, prerequisites to whet the appetite of the anticipatory spectator who can relax and wait for the magic of the screen to unfold. Regretfully, although the scaffolding is fancy, the necessary foundation of a story that should whip up suspense, is lacking.

Doris Gilbert's screenplay, derived from Dane Lussier's adaptation of Elizabeth Meehan's story, hints hopefully of things to come, but for all this observer's patient waiting, they never materialize. The attempts to create mystery and suspense only result in dark obscurity of plot. The script is too talky for a spy melodrama, and rarely erupts into action. This is the handicap under which George Sherman, associate producer-director, labors.

Hub of the film, around which revolves what action there is, is Richard Arlen, a correspondent who has escaped from a Burma prison camp with a military secret on film. But Arlen comes somewhat late on the scene and one wonders what all the bother is about. Von Stroheim, dealer in such secrets while operating behind the front of a gambling casino and night club, is assigned to ferret out the whereabouts of Arlen, who is in hiding in Lisbon. Miss Ralston enters the picture as a counter-spy, unknown to all concerned, including the audience. Von Stroheim assumes a temporary advantage toward the end of 86 minutes of film, but is surprised by the Lisbon Secret Police.

Performances are generally competent, considering the material at hand, and include also those of Eduardo Ciannelli, Robert Livingston and Frank Orth. Present, also, are the Aida Broadbent Girls in an Egyptian dance sequence, centered about Miss Ralston.

Running time, 86 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 16.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Beauty' Is $4,500 Over in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Aug. 28.—"Bathing Beauty" is heading for an approximate $11,000 on a moveover week at the RKO Grand, where the average is $6,500. "In Society" is up to $2,500 on the RKO Albee average with an estimate take of $16,000, and "Double Indemnity" should give the RKO Palace $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 30-Sept. 2:

"In Society" (Univ.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
"Song of Nevada" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,550. (Average: $1,400).

"They Live in Fear" (Col.)
"Trigger Trail" (Univ.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average: $800).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $6,500).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Ghost Breakers" (Univ.)
"Voice in the Wind" (UA)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 6th week, following three weeks at the Palace and two weeks at the Grand. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).

AFN Now Uses 50 Transmitters in U. K.

The American Forces Network, U. S. Army radio service for military personnel in the European theatre, has increased in one year's operation from the use of five transmitters and 43 hours a week broadcasting to approximately 16 per cent of the American troops in the United Kingdom, to over 50 transmitters, broadcasting 93 hours weekly to over 80 per cent of our military personnel in the British Isles.

In addition, the AFN supplies about 50 per cent of the 119 hours beamed via longwave to Allied troops in France on the Allied Expeditionary Forces program. Major John S. Hayes, formerly assistant to the vice-president of station WOR here, is officer in charge, assisted by Capt. Robert M. Light. AFN personnel includes Pvt. Jimmy Boyle, formerly in RKO Radio's home office publicity department; Cpl. Keith Jameson, previously with the Blue Network; Sgt. Vic Knight, former radio producer, and Sgt. "Mickey" Freeman, formerly with 20th-Fox.

'Rurales' Now 'Flame'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—Cecil B. De Mille's new color production for Paramount will be "The Flame." It has been in preparation for two years as "Rurales." Director Arthur Rosson; G. E. Richardson, cameraman, and Kenneth De Land, business manager, are in Mexico on preliminary work preparatory to filming locations in that country.





FOR ADOPTION

WANTED: Good Foster Parent (preferably theatre-owner) for this healthy, attractive and perfectly-formed infant. Has wonderful pair of lungs, and can yell so loud before your theatre, nobody can miss it. He also has plenty of noise-making toys and gadgets—all tested—and it is guaranteed that if he doesn't get people's attention with one plaything, he will with another. He may be small in size; but as a crowd-raiser, he is a giant. For further details, just ask for that baby that makes the big noise in front of theatres—the national scream baby.

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS THAT NEVER STOP!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 42 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1944 TEN CENTS

Third Quarter Stock Cut Now 15%, Not 20%

100% Raw Stock Quotas Seen for 4th Quarter

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—A cut n raw stock quotas for the present quarter nearer to 15 per cent than o the 20 per cent originally seen necessary, and fourth quarter allocaions practically at 100 per cent were een likely today by Lincoln V. Burows, chief of the War Production Board motion picture section.

Just returned from Rochester, where he went over the situation in detail with raw film manufacturers, Burrows was highly optimistic over the situation and said that, barring unforeseen developments, the industry's committee would be asked to come to Washington shortly after Labor Day for final determination of the curtailment to be borne by each of the 11 companies.

During his trip to the film plants,

(*Continued on page 6*)

1st Rank Details Given UA Board

The board of directors of United Artists held a special meeting here esterday and recessed until next Tuesday, Sept. 5, without taking any ction on the pending deal for UA to listribute in 1944-45 some 10 films in he United States made by J. Arthur Rank and Two Cities Films of Lonion, and also to ratify the permanent ppointment of David H. Coplan as

(*Continued on page 6*)

Biddle Urges Curb On Foreign Trusts

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—Warning of the duplicity here of German monopolies, in all fields, including films and film equipment, such as I. G. Farbenindustrie and Carl Zeiss, which he declared in reality operated as departments of the German government between World War I and World War II, and evaded and violated the peace treaties of the last war in order to

(*Continued on page 6*)

Studio Pact Is Approved

The War Labor Board has approved a new five-year contract between the Eastern film and newsreel companies and IATSE Local 52 in New York covering some 200 production workers and 50 newsreel workers. While the production workers known as studio mechanics, are all in New York, the newsreel workers also include members of IATSE Local 476, Chicago and the newsreel workers of Local 695, Hollywood.

The terms of the contract, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1944, provide for a 15 per cent wage increase for the 200 studio mechanics and a five per cent increase for newsreel production workers. The contract can be reopened at the end of two years for wage adjustments. The agreement was negotiated

(*Continued on page 4*)

Delay in WAC Brief On 'Locally Needed'

Preparation of briefs by the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee in furtherance of efforts to have film distribution included on the list of industries that might be designated by local War Manpow-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Polio Epidemic 2nd Only to 1916 Mark

Washington, Aug. 29.—The infantile paralysis epidemic has reached proportions not equaled at any time since the epidemic of 1916, with its peak 'not yet in sight,' it was reported here today by the U. S. Public Health Service. Hundreds of theatres have closed their doors to child attendance with box office receipts dropping as much as 60 per cent, especially in the South.

Latest figures show a total of 6,258 cases throughout the U. S.

Map Industry's 6th Drive Sept. 12

The 'grand strategy' of the industry's participation in the forthcoming Sixth War Loan will be mapped at a policy meeting called for Sept. 12 at the headquarters of the War Activities Committee in New York with invitations sent to the nine co-chairmen by chairman Harry Brandt.

Decision to call the session, was made at a conference held at the WAC offices yesterday. Those attending were, in addition to Brandt, John

(*Continued on page 4*)

SAG Amplifies Warning on U. S. Free-Lance Curbs

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29.—The Screen Actors Guild, preparing to send representatives to Washington to protest against the "specific assignment" rule being considered by the Treasury Department's salary stabilization bureau, has issued a detailed explanation of its warning that this measure, by requiring prior Government approval of salaries of free-lance players earning more than $1,000 weekly, would tend to lower the rates for all actors.

"The actor who can be employed without obtaining prior aproval," the SAG statement says, "would have the advantage over the actor who legitimately asks a higher rate," the SAG declares. This is particularly true since the field is a highly competitive one and hiring is frequently done just before the work is actually performed."

The proposed Treasury regulation

(*Continued on page 4*)

66 2/3% Return to Former Film Jobs

Out of 13,705 Warner employees in military service, 300 have received discharges and nearly two-thirds have returned to the company to date. The majority were reinstated in former or equivalent duties, while in some cases the returned soldiers were given better positions.

New inductions are continuing at a higher rate than discharges. Of the 3,705 in service, 735 are from the studio, 251 from exchanges, and most of the remainder are from the theatre department. Casualties to date total 31.

Legality of Decree Hit by Harry Arthur

Will Fail to Comply with Arbitration Award

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 29.—Following a motion for dismissal of arbitration proceedings, filed by Adolph Rosecan, operator of the Princess Theatre, here, against the five consenting companies, which has been rejected by the clerk of the St. Louis tribunal, Harry C. Arthur, Jr., and St. Louis Amusement Co., through Russell Hardy, counsel, has launched an attack upon the constitutional basis of the consent decree, it was learned here today.



Harry C. Arthur, Jr.

Declaring that various theatre com-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Asks Divorcement For Independents

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 29.—The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut, from headquarters here, has issued a bulletin lining up with the MPTOA, of which it is an affiliate, in hailing several provisions of the Government's consent decree modification proposals as being of "extreme importance" to exhibitors.

Especially stressed in this connection

(*Continued on page 4*)

McClennon Retained As Schine Counsel

BUFFALO, Aug. 29.—Edward F. McClennon of Boston, attorney, who took a prominent part in the Momand Theatres' anti-trust case, has entered the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., as senior counsel for Schine. He was introduced before Federal Judge John Knight by Willard S. McKay, Schine

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn, has left for Boston for a week's business trip.

•

HENRY LINET, assistant to MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity-exploitation head, is in Toledo and will return to New York on Friday.

•

DON TURNER, manager of the commercial engineering department of Altec Service Corp., has returned to the New York office from Hollywood.

•

HAROLD HUTCHINS, advertising director of Hillman magazines, left today for a week's vacation at Mackinack Island, Mich.

•

AL HOROWITZ, Universal Eastern publicity manager, left last night for Chicago, returning to New York at the weekend.

•

FRED JOYCE, special publicity representative for 20th-Fox in Chicago, is in Indianapolis this week on business.

•

HOWARD ESTABROOK, writer-director of RKO-Radio, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, will leave today for Albany, where he will spend several days.

•

I. F. DOLID, Warner supervisor of exchanges, has returned to New York after an inspection trip.

Shea Leaves Cagney, 1st Stop Peekskill

Joe Shea, Eastern publicity director for William Cagney Productions, who has been on leave of absence following an operation, resigned yesterday and left for Camp Smith at Peekskill, N. Y., for the annual tour of duty with the 12th Regiment, New York State Guard.

Shea received a six months' leave of absence from his Cagney post last July 15 to take a foreign government post but had not recovered sufficiently to pass the physical test until the past week.

Larkin Leaves WAC, To Publicize Dewey

Mark Larkin, on loan to the War Activities Committee here from the MPPDA, has resigned to join the Duane Jones Co. agency which is buying time for the National Republican Committee's current Presidential campaign. He will be loaned to the Committee by the agency as radio publicity director during the campaign, taking over tomorrow.

Larkin, under WAC publicity director Ed Schreiber, concentrated on publicizing the industry's 16-mm Army gift film program.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Aug. 29.

IT was in mid-July when 20th Century-Fox created surprise by divulging plans for a dozen "B's" to decorate its 1944-45 program. Ben Silvey, long a unit man with the company, was handed the assignment. At the studio, no illusions were sent aloft about the contemplated 12.

They are to be what they are described as being: Low-budget attractions, made strictly at a price which these days could not possibly be less than a couple of hundred thousand apiece.

■

It is interesting to recall, if any memories have to be jogged, that the occasions have been two, at least, when this company went very official in its pronouncements about abandonment of anything less than a large "A."

This was the era of big pictures and extended playing time, and 20th Century-Fox was to fashion its production accordingly. So, too, its important producing neighbors in Hollywood.

Therefore, it becomes a matter of the moment to throw a shaft of light into the reasons behind the policy change.

■

It is a case of theatre demand, reaching Spyros Skouras from accumulated sources throughout the country. Exhibitors of stature reputedly have pointed out to him — Skouras must have known anyway—that long first run playdates are slowing down the flow of product and that fewer releases have tightened the availibilities of later runs.

Since later runs, of course, change more often they require more film. If they cannot meet their needs from one company, they must turn to another.

They have. They are.

■

Under such circumstances, there appears no valid reason, from a distributing viewpoint at least, why 20th Century-Fox could not turn the situation to its advantage. A factor of considerable size, moreover, is the desirability of serving as many customers as possible and of filling as much playing time as competitive conditions permit—a sort of 'round-the-year method of keeping the exhibitor aware that TC-F is in the running.

Naturally, in any capture of playdates, some other company loses ground, but in a business race that's the other company's affair. Tom Connors has to worry about himself.

■

When 20th Century-Fox revealed its lineup for 1944-45 the other day, the noise was generated over 27 releases. They represent what is designed to be the cream of the crop, but it's not the whole crop. The dozen "B's" were simply ignored, and it could be that they will continue to be bypassed except in the field where they have to be sold. At the studio, the question of the low-budgeteers is met with this answer:

"We didn't say anything about them because we don't know yet what they will be. But we are going to make them."

As a matter of fact, the constant push for contracts and, thereafter, playing time set aside for one brand of product prevail elsewhere as well. Only the formula has been somewhat different. Warners is releasing 19 attractions in the season now terminating. The fire and excitement have been concentrated on this highly restricted total. But the company also touched a peak in reissue which no other distributor has approached. They are 16.

In combination, actually, Warners is releasing 35. Its crew on the firing line, naturally, has been selling as many as possible and the purposes have been twofold: One, to get the revenue. Two, to keep the Warner brand actively going in all available situations.

■

In the background, the larger reason bears on the probable shape of things to come. Whether correct or otherwise, majority opinion believes the post-war period will witness an unwinding at first runs resulting in a cut in playing time. This is predicated on the assumption the public will turn to other outlets with its money: travel, autos, refrigerators, et al—and will patronize motion pictures less. In turn, this line of reasoning allows for greater film requirements on the part of first runs. This would result in more frequency of release, and this means more product to sell.

If distributors are in now, customer relationships are established. The calculation is they will be easier to maintain, less costly to rebuild. Besides, the sales force is around anyway.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 29

AL LICHTMAN will resume his duties today in charge of the identical M-G-M producer group which he was compelled to leave some time ago for reasons of ill health. Lichtman has been on the inactive list for months.

•

"Hollywood Canteen," nearing completion, has been designated by Jack L. Warner, executive producer, as the company's first release in 1945. Under plans worked out while Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, was here recently, the multi-star musical will go into national distribution New Year's Eve.

•

Stuart Gilmore was promoted from Paramount film editor to a director. His first assignment will be "The Virginian."

•

Paramount exercized its options on Veronica Lake and James Brown for another year.

•

Robert Lowry was signed for three more Pine-Thomas pictures. The first will be "High Man."

•

David O. Selznick returned today following a month's vacation at Chesapeake Bay.

Fine Republic, But Clear Executives

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 29.—Republic Productions, Inc., has pleaded *nolle contendere* in Federal Judge D. W. Ling's court here, to criminal information filed by the Government on information furnished by the War Production Board, and the company was fined $8,000.

Republic admitted spending $57,000 to construct a sound stage at its studio which was $33,316 in excess of the amount authorized by the WPB. On the motion of Federal prosecutor Charles H. Carr, charges against Hy J. Glick, secretary-treasurer; C. L. Lootens, production manager; J. Scotto, administrative assistant, and T. W. Yates, purchasing agent, all of Republic, were dismissed.

Mayer Hospitalized For Several Weeks

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 29.—Louis B. Mayer was resting more comfortably today, following his injury from a falling horse last Sunday, although his condition is very painful. He will be confined in the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital "at least several weeks," it was said.

Kirby's Daughter Dies

Funeral services will be held here Friday for Mrs. Reginald Whalen, daughter of Thomas Kirby of Pat Casey's office. Mrs. Whalen died yesterday at her home in Flushing, N. Y.

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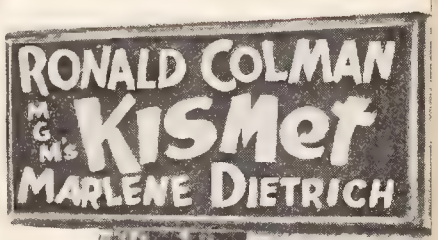


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THE BIGGEST TECHNICOLOR SHOW IN FILM ANNALS!

COLOSSAL IS THE WORD FOR KISMET!



TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

Keep Selling Bonds

McClennon Retained As Schine Counsel

(Continued from page 1)

counsel of record, prior to the hearing of arguments on three motions in U. S. District Court here yesterday.

McClennon will represent the circuit in co-operation with McKay and Saul Rogers when the trial, adjourned several months ago, is resumed on Sept. 26. Several additional associates will also be retained by the defense to help handle the mass of work in connection with the case, to which the Department of Justice has assigned a large number of attorneys. Seth Richardson withdrew recently as one of the Schine counsel.

M. K. Murphy's Motion Denied

In the hearing yesterday, Judge Knight quashed a motion by M. K. Murphy of Applacia, Virginia, and his attorney. M. M. Heuser, to take depositions on Sept. 1 in support of the contention that Murphy had made a bone fide offer to purchase two Schine theatres in Applacia and one in Corbin, Ky. The judge agreed to hear Murphy on the subject, however, and set Sept. 11 for the purpose. McKay contended that the exhibitor had relinquished his opportunity to buy and had obtained from Schine the return of a $3,000 deposit.

Scheduled for Sept. 11 also are arguments on the sale of more theatres named under the divestiture section of the court's temporary order of May 19, 1942. It was disclosed by McKay that Schine has received offers other than Murphy's.

Two motions made by Robert L. Wright, Department of Justice attorney, were taken under advisement by the court. The one would require Schine to give a fuller answer to the plaintiff's request for admissions of fact. The other would quash subpoenas served by Schine upon Attorney General Francis Biddle, Wendell Berge, his assistant, and Herbert Borkland, special U. S. attorney, commanding production of documentary evidence now in possession of the Government, in advance of the resumption of the trial.

New York Studio Pact is Approved

(Continued from page 1)

between the companies and Sal J. Scoppa, business manager of Local 52 with the aid of Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, now in Hollywood. Originally it was planned to submit the contract to the WLB along with the other IATSE studio workers' pacts which were negotiated last April but the continuing delay in submitting the 'IA' contracts to the WLB led Local 52 to decide to submit its contract to the WLB here separately.

Local 52 will hold an election of officers Sept. 10. Phil William Garrity, president; James A. Delaney, general secretary-treasurer; and Scoppa, business manager, are unopposed for reelection.

31 Goldwyns to Dezel

CLEVELAND, Aug. 29.—Al Dezel and Robert Snyder of Al Dezel Road Shows, have acquired 31 Goldwyn reissues for distribution in Cleveland territory, purchasing the rights from George Hirliman's Film Classics.

Hits Decree Legality in St. Louis Clearance Case

(Continued from page 1)

panies named by Rosecan as interested parties in his original clearance complaint do not plan to submit to arbitration nor accept any award which may result from such proceedings, Hardy, for Arthur, asked that the proceedings be dismissed. The non-defendant theatres are the Gravois, Shenandoah, Granada, Avalon and St. Louis theatres, operated by St. Louis Amusement Co.; the Ambassador, operated by St. Louis Ambassador Theatre, Inc.; the Fox, operated by Eden Theatre Co.; Missouri, operated by St. Louis Missouri Theatre, Inc., and the Shubert, operated by Service Group Theatres.

Constitutional Violation

In his attack on the decree, Hardy's request for dismissal of the arbitration proceedings was based on the grounds that they constituted a violation of Article I, Section 1 of the U. S. Constitution in that the action of the said parties and of the District Court creating an arbitration system constitutes a usurpation of the legislative powers of the U. S. Congress; the authority vested in the American Arbitration Association and the motion picture arbitration tribunal and the method for arbitration of claims stated in the consent decree are unlawful and violate Artitcle III, Section 1 of the Constitution in that the AAA is not a court and has usurped judicial powers which the District Court has no authority to transfer to it; the consent decree was not authorized by the Sherman Anti-trust Act because it is no remedy for the alleged monopoly stated in the trust suit of the U. S. vs. Paramount, et al; the non-defendant theatres are not parties to the decree being unrelated to the defendants in the case and not having participated in the alleged monopolistic practices and, in fact, having been damaged by such practices; that the arbitration system is unlawful because it continues the alleged conspiracy and monopoly stated in the case of U. S. vs. Paramount, and all parties participating are engaged in alleged monopolistic practices; and, finally, that the relief sought by the complainant is unlawful because it would deprive the non-defendant theatres of their property without due process of law, under Article V of the amendments to the Constitution.

Tribunal Rejected Proposal

The clerk of the local arbitration tribunal has rejected the proposal for dismissal, it is understood, because there is no provision in the consent decree for such a motion and the clerk had to turn it down. Rule I of the decree provides that any party named in an arbitration complaint may intervene and become a party to the proceeding by paying a $10 fee. Further, since the U. S. Government and the five consenting companies are parties to the decree, a non-signatory such as the St. Louis Amusement Co. could not logically ask the AAA to dismiss such arbitration proceedings which would, in effect, serve to invalidate the decree itself, it was held. When Rosecan filed for the Princess, he named the non-defendant theatres and they were then notified by the clerk of the tribunal. It was on this basis that they interposed their motion for dismissal.

SAG Amplifies Warning on U. S. Free-Lance Curbs

(Continued from page 1)

provides: "That no employe be hired without prior approval, under the 'specific assignment' rule for 'picture deals', i.e., such as a flat rate for performing some particular function in connection with the production of a stipulated photoplay, at a salary in excess of 20 per cent over his highest long-term salary or his Oct. 3, 1942, salary; that no employe be hired without prior approval under the 'specific assignment' rule on a short term contract of employment which extends over six weeks at a salary rate in excess of 20 per cent over his highest long-term salary or his Oct. 3, 1942, salary.

It further provides: "That no employe be hired without prior approval under the 'specific assignment' rule under a contract of employment which extends over two weeks, at a salary in excess of 30 per cent over his highest long-term salary or his Oct. 3, 1942 salary; that no employe be hired under the 'specific asignment' rule where compensation by the day or week totals $1,000 per week or more, without prior approval, and that no employe covered by the 'specific assignment' rule be employed in two successive specific assignments within a 12-month period by the same employer, without prior approval."

These regulations, the SAG now points out, are subject to the over-all industry objection that they would unduly hamper production, would make necessary impractical delays in casting and are not consistent with the realities of picture-making.

The SAG asserts, however, that "the Guild has never in the past opposed the control of inflation though salary stabilization, nor does it now oppose such control. It does oppose the depression of the professional scale for actors."

Before sending representatives to Washington, which, presumably, will be done only if necessary, SAG has joined with other industry groups in sending a letter to the Treasury Department, citing objections to the proposed regulation and seeking clarification on issues not clear.

Meanwhile, the SAG statement assures actors that the rule is not yet mandatory. "If you experience any attempt to curtail your bargaining rights," it says, "the studio is doing that upon its own authority and not because of Federal instructions."

Asks Divorcement For Independents

(Continued from page 1)

by Herman M. Levy, executive secretary, who signed the bulletin, is a prohibition against further acquisition of theatres by either affiliated or large independent circuits. "It would seem," says the bulletin, "that this provision is of great importance to 'indepent chains' even though they are not parties to this procedure by the Government. If this provision becomes law, why could it not be carried over to all situations, independent as well, where it is felt that further acquisition of theatres or interests will unreasonably restrain competition?"

Quotes Biddle's Statement

In support of this view, the organization quotes the reply of Attorney General Francis Biddle to a question put to him on the subject by MOTION PICTURE DAILY published on Aug. 21. Biddle's reply was: "It is the purpose of the Department to correct all abuses and violations of the (anti-trust) act. There will be no preference shown."

The Connecticut statement likewise refers to proposed clearance provisions as "vitally important" to all exhibitors. "If you operate a theatre under a beneficial clearance and a competing exhibitor proves that that clearance unreasonably restrains his competition, then that clearance may be eliminated," the statement adds.

On the subject of single selling, the Connecticut group reiterates that, under the amendments sought by the G vernment, "distributors may license their product one at a time or any other way they please just so long as they do not condition the licensing of one picture or group of pictures on another," according to the bulletin.

Delay in WAC Brief On 'Locally Needed'

(Continued from page 1)

er Commissions as "locally needed" has been delayed because of revisions.

No actual data for the submission of the brief to WMC authorities in Washington is mentioned but the distributors do intend to continue efforts to secure the designation for their exchanges. When ready for submission, the brief will be presented to the essential activities committee of the WMC.

A similar attempt to secure manpower relief for theatres was recently made by the WAC's theatre division with the aid of the Office of Civilian Requirements, but the outlook is considered to be not very favorable in view of the critical manpower situation in many areas.

Map Industry's 6th Drive Sept. 12

(Continued from page 1)

Hertz, Jr., publicity director, and his assistant Bill Dasheff, and WAC representatives S. H. Fabian and Francis S. Harmon.

Invitations to the Sept. 12 conference were sent to the following: William J. Crockett, Hugh Bruen, Jack Kirsch, John Rugar, Henry Reeves, Al Steffes, Leo Wolcott, Fred Wehrenberg, and Nathan Yamins.



There's a NEW ALL-TIME RECORD at the Apollo Theatre in Atlantic City. The reason: World Premiere of M-G-M's SPENCER TRACY in his new triumph "THE SEVENTH CROSS!"

Spencer Tracy in "The Seventh Cross" with Signe Hasso • Hume Cronyn • Jessica Tandy • Agnes Moorehead • Herbert Rudley • Felix Bressart • Screen play by Helen Deutsch • Based Upon the Novel by Anna Seghers • An M-G-M Picture • Directed by Fred Zinnemann • Produced by Pandro S. Berman

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

Keep Selling Bonds!

Third Quarter Stock Cut Now 15%, Not 20%

(*Continued from page* 1)

Burrows studied the return of labor in September and the completion of the annual raw stock clean-up, which has been set for Sept. 18 or 23. He also went over the inventory situation and agreed with the companies on a switchover of some of the production batteries from other types of film, needs for which can be met from inventory with safety, to black and white positive stock for a period of two or three weeks.

With the shift in production and the rapid return to capacity output, he said, it will be possible to pull through the remainder of this quarter with a cut in consumption of considerably less than 20 per cent, although it is believed it will not be possible to bring it under 15 per cent.

For the fourth quarter, Burrows said, there is every reason to believe that the over-all allocation may be restored to within one or two per cent of its former level, with only minor adjustments necessary in the quotas for the individual companies. Until last week, it had been feared that a 10 per cent cut would be necessary for the final three months of the year.

Possibilities of Full Quota

Burrows explained that it is hoped to go into the last quarter on a full-quota basis if sign posts still point to a quick end of the war in Europe. If, by any chance hostilities show signs of dragging on through the remainder of the year, it may be necessary to make some slight cuts in consumption, but these will probably be of only small magnitude, since production by that time will again be in full swing.

With the end of hostilities in Europe, military demand for film is expected to drop sharply, eliminating any further danger of deficiencies and possibly paving the way for an increase in allocations, but the restrictions on consumption will not be entirely lifted until there is assurance that all military needs can be met without impigning on the civilian supply.

Rumors of a shortage of color stock which would necessitate the closing down of operations in color were flatly denied by Burrows, who said that while there is not a surplus, the stock situation is all right and there will be sufficient color film to permit users to meet all commitments. There will be no interference with color operations, he promised.

Rose Buys Marden's Ziegfeld Interest

Billy Rose will take possession of the Ziegfeld Theatre here tomorrow night from Loew's, as sole owner, Rose having bought out Ben Marden's half interest since the theatre passed into their hands earlier this year for $630,000. Rose is understood to have given Marden almost a $100,000 profit on his investment of $315,000 for his half interest.

Rose intends to use the Ziegfeld for stage shows.

Review

"Till We Meet Again"

(*Paramount*)

THE latest production of producer-director Frank Borzage, starring Ray Milland and Barbara Britton, tackles an extremely powerful and delicate theme and he brings it in with some fine touches, though rather overemphasizing the inherent melodrama.

Basic idea of the screenplay by Lenore Coffee is to show the wartime development of courage and human understanding in a girl who has fled the horrifying home of her parents and taken sanctuary in a French convent. Here she is compelled by circumstances, toward the end of her novitiate, to join the underground and go forth disguised as the wife of a stranded American aviator who must be smuggled through to the Coast. The impact of a Nazi-infested world upon one so ill-equipped to face it is pitiful to behold; and the sister's accomplishment of her mission, made possible equally by religious faith and a growing affection for the captain, results in some scenes of real beauty. In the best of these, the Yank's simple account of his married bliss back home touchingly orients his traveling companion toward the life she has feared and renounced.

The story's tender aspects, however, are scantily sketched, while most of the footage is taken up with details of encountering the enemy. And the ending, wherein the woman goes to her death to let the man escape, is handled in the frankest thriller tradition. Thus the exhibitor gets a film that bids strongly for treatment as something pretty special, but which may have trouble maintaining its balance above the average program spy-picture class.

Intelligent performances by Milland and Miss Britton do a lot to redeem the script whenever it falters, and they get yeoman support from Lucille Watson as a mother superior, Walter Slezak as a collaborationist mayor, Konstantin Shayne as a German officer, and Vladimir Sokoloff and Marguerite D'Alverez as stalwarts of the Maquis.

Running time, 88 mins. "G."* Release in Block No. 1, 1944-45.

TOM LOY

*"G" denotes general classification.

Story Analysts Hit Academy Vote Limit

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 29.—First objection to the proposed new method of balloting for future Academy awards which would confine the voting to those groups having representation among winners and mean the elimination of the votes of extras, unit managers, assistant directors and screen story analysts, was entered today by the Screen Story Analysts Guild.

The Story Analysts said, "The elimination from voting of all crafts not eligible to receive awards tends to make a very exclusive affair out of the Academy. Just as the story analysts have a definite contribution to make in the selection of story material, so are they in a position to contribute to the selection of Academy awards. By virtue of their profession, they are objective, trained critics. Further, they are less likely to be swayed by studio politics than perhaps any other craft."

$42,755 for 'Kismet', New Astor Record

"Kismet" wound up its first week at the Astor Theatre here with a new all-time record for the theatre, including "Gone With the Wind" and "See Here, Private Hargrove," M-G-M declared yesterday. The latter picture previously held the record.

The seven-day gross of $42,755 bettered by more than $6,000 the previous record of "Hargrove," with no change in the general scale of admission prices since "Private Hargrove" played the house.

Newspaper Guild May Enter Video

The possibility that the Newspaper Guild of America may seek to extend its jurisdiction to include radio and television employes was seen in discussions at the Guild's convention by its constitutional committee in Milwaukee, it was learned here yesterday.

Proposed by Nat Einhorn, executive secretary of the New York Guild, the expected expansion in the television and radio in the postwar with spot television coverage by regular news staffs envisaged, was seen as a field for organization. The committee has recommended that the guild's international executive board study the proposals and report on it at next year's convention.

Up to the present the American Federation of Radio Artists and unions like the IATSE, the electrical unions and Actors Equity have made jurisdictional claims for the television field.

Abraham Rambach of Theatre Family Dies

Funeral services for Abraham Rambach, 79, father-in-law of both Morris Lane of the Lane circuit and operator of the Elk Film Delivery Service, and Israel Zatkin, general manager of Lane theatres, will be held today at 1:30 P.M. at Riverside Chapel. Rambach died yesterday in Wadsworth Hospital after a long illness.

Other survivors include a son, Marvin, and four daughters, Mrs. Norma Reiss, Mrs. Mae Frank, Mrs. Sadie Oshin and Mrs. Lynn Pressman.

1st Rank Details Given UA Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

managing director for UA in Great Britain. Coplan is now in New York.

According to Rank in London, he and Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president and distribution head, "hammered out agreements, the basis of which demand amplification and ratification by UA in New York." This understanding between Rank and Sears was reached during Sear's recent visit to London; Sears returned to New York last week.

Barrington C. Gain, emissary of Rank, who accompanied Sears to New York, reiterated here yesterday that there is still a possibility of a Rank deal with UA. He stated upon his arrival here that he and Dr. Alexander Galperson, distribution representative of Two Cities were here to seek "the most advantageous" distribution arrangement for the 10 Rank films but did not rule out the possibility of a deal with UA.

It is understood that Sears has been discussing a possible Rank deal with UA executives since his return, with the provisions being presented to the UA board for the first time yesterday.

Biddle Urges Curb On Foreign Trusts

(*Continued from page* 1)

build up Germany's military strength, Attorney General Francis S. Biddle today urged Congress for anti-monopoly legislation, "not to destroy German economic life, but to put its industries into a form where they will no longer constitute a menace to the civilized world."

Biddle told a Senate sub-committee on war mobilization that the German trusts negotiated cartel arrangements with American firms which to the latter were purely commercial agreements but to Germany were a means to "restrict American industry, capture from us such technical know-how as might be important to them, and to lay the groundwork for future esionage and propaganda activities."

The Attorney General predicted that "when the Nazis lose, these German firms will undoubtedly announce that this was not of their choosing and that they are only commercial enterprises."

"We fell for that after the last war," he said, "we should not do so again."

'U' Executives at San Diego Dinner

Universal will be host at dinner at Toots Shor's here tonight prior to a preview of "San Diego, I Love You," at the RKO 81st Street Theatre.

Those scheduled to attend are: W. A. Scully, J. J. O'Connor, E. T. Gomersall, S. Machnovitch, E. L. McEvoy, Fred Meyers, Maurice Bergman, M. Alin, Adolph Schimel, Al Daff, A. J. Sharick, Joseph Gershenson, Bob Wile, Thomas Martell, Oscar Doob, Harry Mandel, Ernest Emmerling, Gene Picker, Harold Mirisch James Brennan, Sol. Schwartz, Bob Sherman, Matty Polon, Joe Becker and members of the trade press.

$29,000 for 'Society' in Chicago Week

CHICAGO, Aug. 29.—The public's hunger for escapist comedy is emphasized at the Palace this week where "Abbott and Costello in Society" rolled up a fine $29,000 in its first eight days, comparing favorably with some of the best Abbott and Costello grosses in the Loop. "And the Angels Sing" continues strong at the Chicago, taking a heavy $61,000 in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 31:

"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 6 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, 7 days: $11,400).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Charlie Spivak and orchestra. Gross: $61,000. (Average: $51,500).

"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Crime by Night" (WB) (2 days)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. "Crime By Night" added for balance of "Gang" run. 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,100).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO) (7 days)
"Falcon in Mexico" (RKO) (6 days)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO) (1 day)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c1 7 days, 2nd week. "Attack" replaced "Falcon" for balance of run. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,100).

"San Fernando Valley" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Connee Boswell and Revue. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $24,000).

"Abbott and Costello in Society" (Univ.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 8 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average, 7 days: $24,000).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $29,000).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000).

"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 18th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

'Lowdown', Show Hit Big $28,000

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—"Jitterbugs," stormed Loew's Capitol this week to see Horace Heidt and his orchestra on the stage and to hear Benny Goodman and his band in "Sweet and Lowdown," resulting in a $28,000 gross for the week. Cool weather also helped all box-offices.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 31:

"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (35c-43c-55c-72c) 7 days. On stage: Horace Heidt and orchestra. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, sixth downtown week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,200).

"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. On stage: Lyda Sue, Roxyettes. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,700).

"In Society" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $13,600).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).

"Dragon Seed" (MGM)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000)

Review

"The Doughgirls"

(Warner Bros.)

MERRY, madcap matrimonial misadventures of a trio of ex-chorines, unveiled against a background of the familiar hectic housing situation in crowded war-time Washington, provides some rollicking comedy in the film version of "The Doughgirls," produced for Warners by Mark Hellinger from the Broadway stage play.

Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith and Jane Wyman are the three "newly married" chorines. John Ridgely, Craig Stevens and Jack Carson are their respective "husbands." Added zest is provided by Irene Manning as Miss Sheridan's nemesis; Eve Arden as a lusty Russian guerilla fighter; Charlie Ruggles as a coordinator of coordinators; and Alan Mowbray as a pompous radio commentator. Loaded with excellent marquee names, aided by the popularity of the Broadway stage play from which it is derived, and embodying all the popular elements of grand escapist entertainment, this is a film that is certain to score handsomely at the box office.

The hilarity in the James V. Kern-Sam Hellman screen play from the Joseph A. Fields stage play, stems more from the fast and furious tempo of Kern's direction than from the spontaneity of the comedy situations. Miss Wyman elopes with Carson, newly appointed to a post in Ruggles' bureau, only to discover after they attempt to take sole possession of their reserved hotel suite in Washington, that the Justice of Peace who married them was a "phony" who had been caught robbing the real Justice's home. In taking possession of the suite, they dispossess another honeymoon couple, Miss Sheridan and Ridgely, a chemist, whose divorce from Miss Manning, it develops, has not become final. Miss Smith's wedding ceremony to Stevens, an Army flyer, has been interrupted by his coming down with measles although their marriage has already been recorded in official papers with a mislaid marriage certificate causing further complications.

Crowded living conditions in Washington's Soviet Embassy prompts Miss Arden to move into the hotel suite with the three other girls and a priority enables Mowbray to share occupancy. Ruggles evinces more than a paternal interest in Miss Wyman before the three girls are finally remarried.

It is all good, clean fun served up with gusto and handsome trimmings in Hellinger's attractive production. Performances are uniformly excellent with a bit of outstanding pantomime being contributed by Joe De Rita as a weary Washington visitor in search of sleeping accommodations. Others in the cast include John Alexander, Barbara Brown, Francis Pierlot, Donald MacBride and Regis Toomey. Wilkie Mahoney supplied additional dialogue and Ernest Haller was in charge of the cameras.

Running time, 102 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Way' Out Front for 3rd Kansas City Week

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 29.—The third week of "Going My Way" continues to draw heavily at the Newman, receipts being only slightly off the totals of each of the first two weeks, around $24,000. "Mr. Winkle Goes to War" is fairly successful at the Midland, with a take of around $16,000. Weather has been generally bad all week.

Estimated receipts for week ending Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $6,000).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
"Escape to Danger" (British)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Two-Man Submarine" (Col.)
"Call of the South Seas" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,400).

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,600).

FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,600).

'Dragon Seed' Yields $17,800 in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Aug. 29.—"Dragon Seed" will probably reach $17,800 at the Great Lakes to lead receipts here. "In Society" and "Moonlight in Vermont" are heading for a fine $16,800 at the Lafayette. The weather has turned cold here after several weeks of record-breaking heat.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 2:

"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
"Take It Big" (Para.)
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $17,400).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $16,200).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"The Big Noise" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700).

"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
"Port of 40 Thieves" (Rep.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,200).

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Moonlight in Vermont" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $12,400).

'Skeffington' Lone Exception in Poor Philadelphia Week

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 29.—With cool weather prevailing and the Mastbaum reopening, business at downtown houses remained sluggish in line with the seasonal lull of the pre-Labor Day week. Out in front and virtually by itself is the business at the Mastbaum with "Mr. Skeffington" the attraction, pointing to $36,500, plus $3,500 already in for the dual Sunday showing at the Earle. "Summer Storm," another new opening, figures on a satisfactory $16,200 for its first week at the Aldine.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 30-Sept. 1:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $14,600).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,400. (Average: $18,000).

"Atlantic City" (Rep.) (6 days)
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Charlie Barnett's orchestra, Kay Starr, Peanuts Holland, Jean Blanche, West and Lexing. Gross: $29,200. (Average: $27,600).

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,900. (Average: $20,500).

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $6,600).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $36,500. (Average: $22,500).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $20,000).

"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,400).

'Take It Big' Does; Leads in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 29.—The Circle, with "Take It Big" and an orchestra, will gross $17,000 to lead Indianapolis theaters this week. Keith's, closed all Summer, reopens this week as a first run house and expects a $11,000 gross from "Girl in the Case" and Blackstone the magician.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 29-31:

"Take It Big" (Para.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,800).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
INDIANA — (3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,600).

"Girl in the Case" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Address Unknown" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Black Parachute" (Col.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days, moveover from Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

Nicaragua Ticket Tax

MANAGUA, Nicaragua Aug. 29.—A 10 per cent tax on theatre tickets was voted here by Congress, revenue of which will be used to provide luncheons for public school children.

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VOL. 56. NO. 43 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Child Labor In Theatres Leads by 15%

Corsi, Exhibitors Will Meet on Problem Here

Violations of child labor laws ave been running 15 per cent igher in theatres throughout New ork State than in other indus-ies, it was disclosed here yesterday y Edward Corsi, head of the State)epartment of Labor.

A check-up made over a period of two months in New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Utica, Schenectady, Elmira, Binghamton and Mount Vernon, disclosed that out of 2,750 'front' employes in all houses covered, 735 were under 18 and thus subject to child labor laws. Of these, approximately 40 per cent were working in violation of the statute, while violations for all other indus-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Watch Films n Video: Fly

CHICAGO, Aug. 30.—James Law-ence Fly, chairman of the Federal ommunications Commission, predict-d the rapid growth of television net-orks in the postwar era during an ddress before the National Associa-on of Broadcasters at the Palmer ouse here this afternoon.

Fly said that "the large motion pic-re interests may cut across the bow television network broadcasting," r "it is wholly feasible to project

(*Continued on page 13*)

Hopper to Continue As MPSA Head

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—Harold Hop-r will continue as president of the lotion Picture Society for the Amer-as pending future plans, thereby iminating the original move to re-ace him with John C. Flinn in view Hopper's general managership of ie M-G-M studios.

M. Travis will continue as MPS eneral manager. Russell Pierce, for-erly attached to the Washington Of-e of the Coordinator for Inter-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Decree Compromise Is Possible, If —

Initiation of any action which would lead to a further conference between the Department of Justice and the five consent decree companies to work out a new consent decree without resorting to court action, would have to come from the Department, if the reaction of some decree company counsel to any such meeting can be used as a barometer.

Decree counsel are described as being "perfectly willing" to respond to any call from the Department for a meeting.

FBI Probe of Goldwyn Claim

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Department of Justice agents are investigating charges by Samuel Goldwyn that large circuits, through alleged arbitrary and unduly high terms, have refused him an opportunity to show his product, it was disclosed here today.

Goldwyn's complaint to the Depart-

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO's Fiscal Half Nets $2,588,493

Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. and subsidiaries report an operating profit of $7,597,103 for the 26 weeks ended July 1, some $1,103,665 more than the $6,493,438 operating profit for the same half-year of 1943. After ta--- and other charges, however, this year's six-month profit was reduced to $2,588,493 net, a drop of $632,090 under the $3,220,583 net for the first six months of 1943.

From the $7,597,103 earnings of the first 26 weeks of this year, provision of $3,258,000 was made for Federal excess profits taxes, whereas no provision for any excess taxes was made in

(*Continued on page 6*)

Columbia Sets Up International Corp.

Columbia International Corp. has been formed as a subsidiary of Columbia Pictures, the fifth of foreign film holding companies to be formed, it was learned here yesterday. The

(*Continued on page 6*)

Hawaii Service Problems Are Cleared by Schaefer

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—Motion pictures are the greatest factor for welfare and recreation in the Hawaiian Islands and are on a par with letters from home, in the opinion of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander of the Pacific Fleet, and Lt. General Robert C. Richardson, Commanding General of the Pacific Ocean areas, it was disclosed here yesterday by George J. Schaefer, War Activities Committee chairman, in Hollywood following his return from Hawaii, where he conferred with Army and Navy representatives on the prospect of improving the film situation in that area.

Schaefer accompanied Capt. John L. Reynolds, director of welfare for the Bureau of Naval Personnel, following a request to the industry from Vice-Admiral Randall Jacobs, chief of the Bureau.

As a result of the survey, Schaefer reported, early showing of all 35-mm films in Army and Navy theatres

(*Continued on page 6*)

Paris Films Here, Released Tuesday

Newsreels of the fall of Paris have arrived in Washington and were expected here by the five newsreel companies, in time for inclusion in the editions to be made up today. Barring unforeseen delay, the pictures will start reaching theatres for showing beginning Tuesday of next week.

The Paris films, obtained from the U. S. Army Signal Corps, are reviewed by military authorities in Washington before being made available to the public. Supplementary footage from British cameramen will follow shortly, it was learned here yesterday.

U. S. Suggests Suit to Clear Award Status

Arthur's Challenge of Arbitration Involved

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—Department of Justice officials suggested here today that a solution to the controversy which has been precipitated by the refusal of Harry C. Arthur, Jr., and his St. Louis Amusement Co. to be a party to an arbitration action brought by Adolph Rosecan, operator of the Princess Theatre in St. Louis, might lie in a court suit against the distributors to determine whether an arbitration award is enforceable.

It was indicated that the Department is not called upon to act in such a situation to support the arbitration board and that if Arthur has any controversy it would lie with the distributors who supply him with

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rehabilitation Group Set Up

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 30.—Rehabilitation plans for several thousand film workers now in the Armed Forces will be studied by a committee of seven which has been appointed by the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

After studying the films' own problems and systems being worked out by other large American industries, the committee will present "a workable sociological plan" to the Association of Motion Picture Producers and

(*Continued on page 6*)

Max Cohen Is Named For 6th War Loan

Max Cohen, independent New York exhibitor, long active in War Activities Committee projects, has accepted the post of assistant in charge of special events for the 6th War Loan. He will handle activities apart from regular bond premieres, 'Free Movie Days,' etc.

Cohen will attend the 'grand strategy' meeting of 6th War Loan leaders scheduled at WAC New York headquarters on Sept. 12.

Personal Mention

TONY SUDEKUM, Crescent Amusement Co. president, at Nashville, is the recipient of birthday greetings from Gov. PRENTICE COOPER, Nashville's Mayor THOMAS CUMMINS, and scores of others. Sudekum has been in exhibition some 37 years.

•

ROBERT SHAPIRO, assistant to ROBERT M. WEITMAN, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, has returned from a vacation.

•

DAVE BADER, 20th Century-Fox trade press contact, will return to the home office Tuesday following a two-week vacation.

•

BOB SWANSON, manager of the Paramount Theatre in Steubenville, O., and MRS. SWANSON are in New York on a vacation.

•

MORTIMER HAYS of HAYS, PODELL and SHULMAN, is on a vacation until after Labor Day.

•

EVE ETTINGER, head of Columbia's Eastern story department, will return Tuesday from a vacation.

•

ED HARRISON, city manager of E. M. Loew's theatres in Springfield, Mass., is in New York for a week's visit.

•

JAMES B. LANSING, vice-president of the Altec Lansing Corp., is in New York from Hollywood.

•

CHARLES RYAN, assistant Chicago zone manager for Warner theatres, is on vacation.

•

S. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal's Southern and Canadian sales manager, is in New Orleans this week.

•

OLIN CLARK, M-G-M's Eastern story editor, is on vacation.

Larry Kent and Bride Due Here Next Week

Larry Kent, executive assistant to Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, and Mrs. Kent, the former Mrs. Anette Downes, also with the company here, who were married Sunday at Las Vegas, N. M., will return to New York in about a week, after which Kent will proceed to London, where he is scheduled to represent 20th-Fox in carrying out terms of the joint production-distribution agreement signed by Skouras and J. Arthur Rank last Spring. Kent has been on the Coast for several months.

Mrs. Kent, it was learned here yesterday, will continue for the present in her position with the company here and will join her husband in England later, although not in the near future. Difficulties in obtaining authority to leave the country, except on official business, during the war in Europe are understood to make this necessary.

Connecticut Police Inspecting Theatres

New Haven, Aug. 30.—As part of Connecticut's campaign against fire hazards in places of public assembly, following the disasterous circus fire in Hartford this Summer, state police are inspecting all theatres, and commissioner Edward J. Hickey has announced that renewals of certificates of approval, heretofore automatically granted, will now be held up until each house has been approved.

Exhibitors, following the inspection, are given reports on what changes must be made. Existing certificates expire Friday.

Hines Reports GPE Enters 16mm Field

General Precision Equipment Corp., has acquired control of Ampro Corp., Chicago, manufacturer of 16 and 8 mm. projectors. Earle G. Hines, president of GPE, yesterday stated that the acquisition was for cash, that no new stock of General Precision will be issued in connection with the purchase and that the present Ampro management will continue in charge of its operations.

Subsidiaries of General Precision have for years manufactured standard 35 mm. equipment for theatres but nave not made 16 mm. or 8 mm. equipment. In Oct., 1943, General Precision acquired all of the stock of Motion Picture Engineering Corp. of Chicago, which specializes in projection equipment for industrial and commercial uses.

Hines said other related equipment such as 16 mm. and 8 mm. cameras will be added when war activities cease and such development can be undertaken.

Col. 'Jock' Whitney Captured in France

Col. John Hay (Jock) Whitney, former board chairman of Selznick International Pictures, with interests in numerous projects, was captured by Germans "somewhere in France," according to press dispatches received in New York. The report has not been confirmed by the War Department.

Whitney entered the film industry as head of Pioneer Pictures, which produced "Becky Sharp" in 1935 and "The Dancing Pirate" in 1936. Later, with International, he is understood largely to have financed "Gone With the Wind" and "Rebecca." He was also a heavy stockholder in Technicolor Corp. In 1940, Whitney was appointed by the Co-ordinator of Cultural Relations among the American republics to head the motion picture division of that office. In 1942, he was made a captain in the intelligence branch of the Army Air Corps, went to England as a public relations officer in 1943 and was then transferred to the Italian theatre.

Johnston, Bromberg, Bernhard, O'Connor In Stock Tradings

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 31.—More than 30,000 shares of Monogram Pictures' common stock was acquired by officers and directors in the company in June and July, it was disclosed here today by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The July report showed that Arthur C. Bromberg, Atlanta, director, acquired 3,300 shares for a total of 18,039 shares, through Monogram Southern Exchanges, Inc., through which he had sold two shares in June; Trem Carr, Hollywood, purchased 6,667 shares, representing his entire interest, and Herman Rifkin, Boston, purchased 15,425 shares through Monogram Pictures, Inc.

June reports showed that Bromberg also acquired 50 shares direct, giving him a total of 1,086 shares; W. Ray Johnston, Hollywood, president, bought 3,416 shares direct, giving him a total of 19,187 shares, and 900 shares through Monogram Pictures, Inc., and Howard W. Stubbins, Los Angeles, purchased 3,695 shares and sold one share through Monogram Pictures of California, which held 8,917 shares at the end of the month; Stubbins sold 1,295 shares through Monogram Pictures of the Northwest, which still held 1,417 shares.

In 20th Century-Fox, Robert Lehman, New York, director, sold 6,800 common shares held through Lehman Brothers. In the same company, William P. Philips, New York, director, sold 500 shares of common, leaving him with 1,500 shares.

Joseph Bernhard, New York, executive of Warner Brothers, sold 1,000 shares of the company's common, leaving him with 5,000 shares. Samuel Carlisle, New York, sold 300 shares of common, leaving him with none.

American Holding Corp., New York, reduced its portfolio of General Precision Equipment capital stock by the sale of 400 shares through American Express, through which it held 13,000 shares, of the month, together with 50,719 shares held through Rexport Corp. Loew's, Inc., picked up another 105 shares of Loew's Boston Theatres' common, giving it a total of 121,213 shares. A June report on Keith-Albee-Orpheum showed that Elizabeth H. Meehan, New York, redeemed 1,880 shares of preferred stock, ending her holdings. John J. O'Connor, New York, of Universal Pictures, bought 400 common voting trust certificates in May, which represented his entire company stock interest.

W. Virginia Owners Convene Oct. 17

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 30.—All West Virginia theatre owners have been invited to the 1944 convention of the West Virginia Managers' Association, scheduled to be held Oct. 17 at the Daniel Boone Hotel here. J. C. Shanklin of Ronceverte, is chairman of the convention committee.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 30

SPYROS SKOURAS arrived today following his attendance at San Francisco's "Wilson" premiere.

•

The armed induction stay granted to Alan Ladd permitted Paramount to start "Salty O'Rourke" today, thereby assuring the company a backlog of three to be released over an approximate one-year period. Others are "And Now Tomorrow" co-starring Loretta Young, and the recently finished "Two Years Before the Mast."

•

Charles E. (Dusty) Rhodes, Warner employee here for the past 15 years, will be installed as commander of the Los Angeles County Council, American Legion, at ceremonies tomorrow night in Patriotic Hall.

•

Monogram has signed Acquanetta for "Jungle Fear," to be produced by Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz, and another film not yet announced.

•

Pat O'Brien will star in six for RKO in three years under a new contract. The first is "Man Alive," with Robert Fellows producing.

•

Norman B. Rydge, Australian film leader, here from Sydney, leaves today for Washington and New York.

•

Nat Holts' first production as RKO producer will be "Riverboat Rhythm."

Seize Color Photo Patents from Aliens

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30.—The Alien Property Custodian here today disclosed that the U. S. has seized patents issued to Luigi Cristiani and Giovanni Mascarini, Italian nationals, for apparatus for color photography in which rights are held by the Additive Color Process Corp. under an agreement entered into in 1938.

Sir Edward Villiers Due in Toronto

TORONTO, Aug. 30. — Sir Edward Villiers of the Ealing studios, England, and formerly with the British Ministry of Information, will arrive here tomorrow for the Canadian premiere of "San Demetrio," at Famous Players Eglinton Theatre tomorrow night.

Report Chevalier Safe

Friends of Maurice Chevalier in France have reported that the film and stage star is safe at his home near Cannes, contrary to an earlier report from France which stated Chevalier had been killed by the Maquis, according to a press dispatch received here yesterday from Paris.

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→ IT HIT THE BIGGEST GROSS



EVER KNOWN

TO THE WARNER THEATRE IN ATLANTIC CITY!

IT'S THE START OF →→

CARY G

HIS ABSOLUTE TOP PE

FRANK CA

ARSENI

FROM WA

with RAYMOND MASSEY · JACK CARSO

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

RAND IN

ANCE - ON THE SCREEN AND AT THE BOX-OFFICE!

RA'S



and OLD LACE

NERS!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

PRISCILLA LANE • EDW. EVERETT HORTON • JAMES GLEASON • JOSEPHINE HULL • JEAN ADAIR • JOHN ALEXANDER

PETER LORRE • Directed by FRANK CAPRA

Screen Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein • From the Stage Play by JOSEPH KESSELRING • Produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse • Music by Max Steiner.

Child Labor In Theatres Leads by 15%

(Continued from page 1)

tries covered stood combined at 25 per cent.

Chief infraction was failure of the young employes to obtain working papers, which are required for all between the ages of 14 and 18; others were found to be performing duties forbidden to children. An enforcement drive already has been undertaken by Corsi's department.

"Although the percentage of child labor violations has been higher in the film industry than in other industries," Corsi said, the public spirit shown by theatre men in bond drives, welfare and civic undertakings of all sorts convince us that the problem of illegal child labor can and will be eliminated in theatres.

Corsi plans to call a meeting of exhibitors to develop a program designed to stamp out the violations. An educational rather than a punitive approach is favored by Corsi's department.

The survey showed that the average wage paid children in theatres was around 40 cents per hour, with only 10 per cent receiving less than 30 cents.

FBI to Make Probe Of Goldwyn's Claim

(Continued from page 1)

ment, made specifically against T. and D. Theatres, operating in San Francisco and other Western cities, follows upon his widely publicized protest showing of "Up in Arms" on Aug. 22 in a converted dance hall in Reno, one of the strongholds of the circuit. He now asks the Government to end the alleged monopoly which he charges this and other large circuits hold against independent producers through the terms they demand for use of their theatres.

Department officials said the inquiry is being made by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Aug. 24, a New York spokesman for RKO, which distributes for Goldwyn, explained that the "quarrel" over "Up in Arms" involved mainly the terms for showing the film in San Francisco. There, he said, Goldwyn had demanded a percentage basis, while T. and D. was holding out for a flat rate. For other cities, including Reno, the circuit was said to be willing to continue the percentage arrangement which had obtained there in the past on other Goldwyn films.

R. Martin Takes Over Five Tomorrow

EUFAULA, Ala., Aug. 30.—Roy E. Martin of Columbus, Ga., who recently bought the two local theatres and houses at Cuthbert, Dawson and Shellman in Georgia from M. G. Lee, Cuthbert, at a reported price of $375,000, will assume active control of all Sept. 1.

Martin owns more than 100 theatres in Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Tennessee.

D. of J. Suggests Suit to Clear Arbitration Status

(Continued from page 1)

product, over their shortening of his clearance in favor of Rosecan.

E. V. Richards, New Orleans and Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City, similarly challenged the enforceability of arbitration awards under the decree, some time ago.

Department of Justice officials appeared undisturbed by Arthur's challenge to the constitutionality of the consent decree, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. They pointed out that any award that might be made in favor of Rosecan would be directed at the consent decree companies and not against Arthur. Under the arbitration findings calling for a reduction in clearance, the distributors would be required to make the cut in clearance and exhibitors have nothing to do with the physical rotation of films among theatres. Should Arthur insist upon his original clearance after a shorter clearance is instituted for his theatres as a result of the award, he would have to go to court against the distributors or refuse to buy their product on the basis of the new clearance, they added.

See Owners' Arbitration Benefits Hit in Move

Beneficial results derived by independent exhibitors under arbitration provisions of the consent decree are seen as being jeopardized, according to decree company legal opinion in New York, if court action is taken by Harry C. Arthur, Jr., and the St. Louis Amusement Co. to challenge the legality of arbitration proceedings under the decree. It was further pointed out that no presently affiliated circuit would be obliged to arbitrate clearance disputes with independent exhibitors should the Department of Justice succeed in divorcing affiliated circuits from the five consenting distribution companies.

Under provisions of the old decree and the new revisions being sought by the Department of Justice, only the five consenting companies and their affiliated circuits are bound to arbitrate clearance disputes with exhibitors. Nearly all independent circuits have submitted to arbitration proceedings along with affiliated circuits and the five consenting companies in the past.

Basis of Attack in Decree

Russell Hardy, counsel for St. Louis Amusement Co., who launched the attack upon the constitutional basis of the consent decree for Arthur, is a former Department of Justice lawyer, and headed the Government's case against Warner Bros. and others in St. Louis several years ago, which eventually led to the St. Louis Amusement Company's present alleged dominant position in that city.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, Hardy's action came following a motion for dismissal of arbitration proceedings, filed by Rosecan, against the five consenting companies, which had been rejected by the clerk of the St. Louis tribunal. He declared that various theatre companies of the St. Louis Amusement Co. named by Rosecan as interested parties in Rosecan's original clearance complaint do not plan to submit to arbitration or accept any award which may result from such proceedings, and asked that the proceedings be dismissed.

Columbia Sets Up International Corp.

(Continued from page 1)

new company has taken over the operation of all of Columbia's foreign business. No officers have been elected as yet.

At the same time, it was learned here, the following officers will head the newly-formed Warner Bros. Pictures International Corp., capitalized at $1,000,000: Robert Schless, Warners' general foreign manager, president; Joseph S. Hummel, foreign sales manager, vice-president; Karl Macdonald, vice-president; J. J. Glynn, vice-president and treasurer; Morris Ebenstein, secretary; Max Greenberg, assistant secretary, and Thomas O'Sullivan, auditor. J. Granich, E. Silverman and J. Shapiro are additional directors. E. K. Hessberg is attorney for the corporation.

Other companies which have formed foreign subsidiaries are Loew's, Paramount and Universal. Substantial tax savings are held to be possible under the foreign holding company plan, because corporations doing 95 per cent of their business abroad are exempt from the U. S. excess profits tax. When such subsidiaries pay dividends to the parent companies, they are taxed only 15 per cent, while the levy on direct operations of the unexempt is 40 per cent.

RKO's Fiscal Half Nets $2,588,493

(Continued from page 1)

the 1943 period, "because the companies did not appear, at that time, to be liable in that respect," a company statement said yesterday. Normal and surtax for the 1944 six-month period was $1,079,000. With taxes on excess profits, taxes totaled $4,337,000 for the 1944 period.

Also deducted from the 1944 income period was a depreciation charge of $649,295, a slight increase over the $646,540 charge for the 1943 half-year. Also deducted was $22,315 in dividends paid during the 1944 six months on common and seven per cent preferred stock of a subsidiary held by the public; $26,314 was paid last year.

Rehabilitation Group Set Up by MPRF

(Continued from page 1)

other industry groups for coordinated action.

The committee consists of Sol Lesser, Charles Bickford, Lucille Gleason, Ewell D. Moore and William Periera. In an ex-officio capacity will be Jean Hersholt and Ralph Morgan, president and vice-president, respectively, of the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

Schaefer Sets Showings for Armed Forces

(Continued from page 1)

throughout the Hawaiians has been effected. The new set-up-alleviates problems which were handicapping Army and Navy recreational programs in the territory.

"Consolidated Amusements," the WAC chairman stated, "has agreed to waive all its rights to clearance, thereby permitting immediate showing of all pictures on 35-mm film in regular Army and Navy theatres."

In Hawaii, previous to the Schaefer-Capt. Reynolds mission, Hollywood features were being offered to Army and Navy 35-mm. theatres from three to six months after their release in continental United States. Principal cause of this was that the Navy had taken over a new unopened theatre built by the Consolidated Amusements, leaving that company only one house, the Waikiki, on the beach. The Waikiki was able to exhibit only four pictures a month and because of a releasing agreement, service theatres had been restricted to the same schedule. This was a problem because of the continual shifting of Armed Forces personnel.

At the conversations with Admiral Nimitz and General Richardson, Schaefer learned that in the Islands during the month of July there were more than 5,000 free showings of the industry's 16-mm gift films to members of the Armed Forces in the Islands.

Schaefer will leave here by plane for New York on Friday.

Hopper to Continue As MPSA Head

(Continued from page 1)

American Affairs, is now functioning as the society's special adviser. The organization is emphasizing a search for story material in an attempt "to build up a real understanding on certain basic and historical issues between the people of the Americas."

Shirley and Byrne Here for Meetings

M-G-M district managers Sam Shirley, Chicago, and John P. Byrne, Detroit, will arrive in New York Sept. 25, when M-G-M resumes its plan of bringing two field executives into the home office weekly for a seven-day visit. The plan, which has been in effect for a number of weeks, is being suspended during the coast visit of William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, who is expected to leave for the Coast studio Sept. 7.

Tom J. Donaldson, Boston manager, and John S. Allen, Washington, are now in New York rounding out a week visiting department heads at the home office. They will leave for their territories at the end of the week.

'Harem' Showing Sept. 7

The trade showing of M-G-M's "Lost in a Harem" will be held in Washington Sept. 7 instead of Aug. 28 as originally announced.

'Wilson', 'Seed' And 'Way' Lead The L. A. Field

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 30.—Top money is divided among "Going My Way," "Dragon Seed" and "Wilson." Dollar for dollar, as compared with averages, honors swing to the Crosby picture.

In its second week at both Downtown and Hollywood Paramount theatres, the Crosby film grossed $57,500, whereas first week opening average is $31,800. At the three-way first run setup now housing M-G-M's bigger films, "Dragon Seed" did a combined $58,700, comparing with average, $33,100. "Wilson" did $16,000 at the Carthay Circle where the norm is $11,200, and an estimated $25,000 at the United Artists where the average is $16,000. At a combined $41,000, "Wilson's" total is $13,200 ahead of average. Weather continued hot and the beaches an attraction.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 30:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE — (1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,200).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
CHINESE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,500).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN — (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $9,500).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
HAWAII — (1,000) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,200).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,700).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,100).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $14,900).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,700).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $38,500. (Average: $20,300).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ — (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $8,700).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,600).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
UPTOWN — (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $10,500).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER BROS. HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 5th week. Gross: $9,224. (Average: $17,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN — (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,700).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN — (2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 5th week. Gross: $8,597. (Average: $15,200).

"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
FOX - WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $11,750).



House Average Is $11,000, 'My Way' Gets a Big $25,000

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 30.—Set for 12 weeks, "Since You Went Away" had its premiere here this week at the United Artists Theatre and prospered to the extent of $25,000 in its first seven days. With five showings daily, ropes were up at practically every performance.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 29-31:

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE — (2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $27,000).

"Trail of the Lonesome Pine" (Para.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"Black Magic" (Mono.)
FOX — (5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $28,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $20,000).

"They Made Me a Criminal" (WB)
"Let 'em Have It"
STATE — (2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, moveover from the Wakefield. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS — (1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after four weeks at the Fox. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,000).

'Holiday' Sets New Mark in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 30.—"Christmas Holiday," which opened at the Fulton after that theatre was closed for a two-week repair period, broke the record previously held by "The Black Swan," by over $500. The management was unable to estimate the week's receipts promised by this record-breaker. The picture's opening saw a record crowd of 9,000 on Friday. Capacity of the theatre is only 1,700.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 25-29:

"Christmas Holiday" (Universal)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross expected to break record. (Average: $8,500).

"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $21,700).

"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, third week, moveover from the Harris. Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,400).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,350).

'People's' N. Y. Premiere

M-G-M's "Meet the People" will have its New York premiere Sept. 7 at Loew's State Theatre. "Maisie Goes to Reno" has been booked to follow it at that house.

MRS. JONES HAD A VERY BRIGHT KID–



Little Josie used to recite for the folks and Mama raved and raved about her talents. But when Josie stopped reciting there was an awful lull because Josie's brothers and sisters were not so hot.

MRS. SMITH TAUGHT ALL HER KIDS CUTE TRICKS–









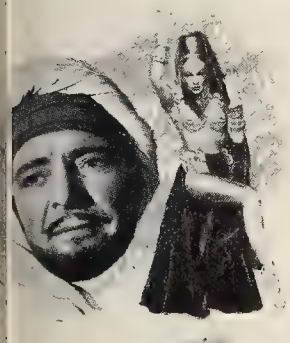
The folks in their neighborhood could always depend on the Smith family to keep everybody happy

(continued)

all the time. That's how it was when you visited the Smiths—more fun than at the Joneses.

And that's how it is with M-G-M! Not just one shot with a lot of noise but one after another ALL THE TIME!

For instance, take a look at how the M-G-M family is occupying the entertainment spotlight right now, and it's an old M-G-M custom:



M-G-M's "KISMET" IS COLOSSAL!

It's a phenom of show business that has all Broadway gaping at the box-office lines. No record in all Astor history to even compare. Ronald Colman stars! Technicolor spectacle! Marlene Dietrich's allure!



M-G-M's "DRAGON SEED" TERRIFIC!

From week to week its staggering Music Hall grosses vary only slightly. 7th week and no let-up. Katharine Hepburn and big cast are grand!



M-G-M's "CANTERVILLE GHOST" HIT!

Only prior commitments at Broadway's Globe interrupt it after 5 record weeks, longest M-G-M run at this house. Margaret O'Brien has again proved true Star appeal!



M-G-M's "BATHING BEAUTY" SOCK!

Adding new box-office glory to its Technicolor joy, this Red Skelton-Esther Williams hit after 8 great Astor weeks packs State for hold-over and plays full week in nabes! Same sweet story nationwide!



M-G-M's "SEVENTH CROSS" WOW!

Spencer Tracy gives new all-time house record to Apollo Theatre, Atlantic City. The sensational World Premiere of this great thriller is your tip-off!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE GOOD TO BE A LEADER FOR TWENTY YEARS!

Keep Selling Bonds!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

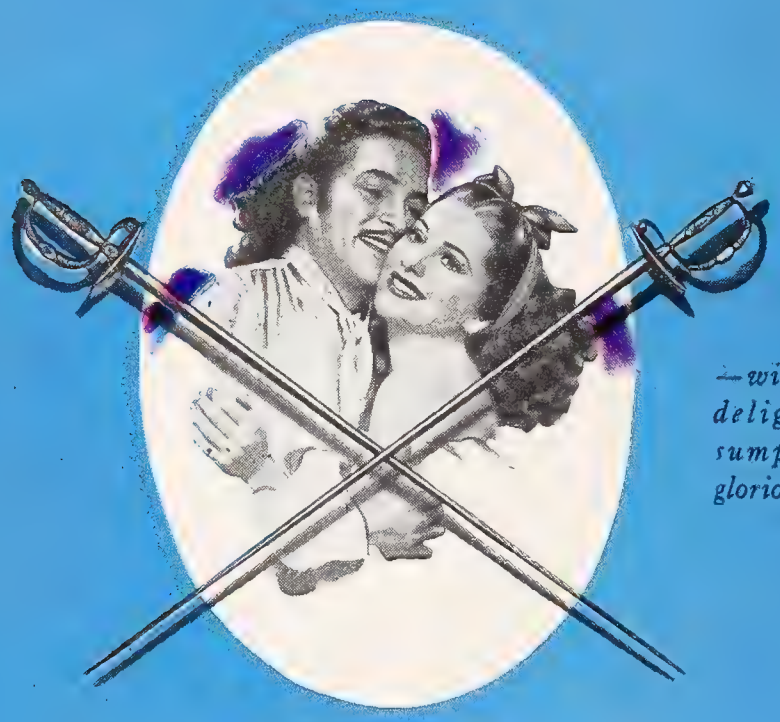
WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Aug. 5	CRY OF THE WEREWOLF Nina Foch Stephen Crane D—63 mins. (5027) SOUL OF A MONSTER Rose Hobart Wm. Wright D—(5026)	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426)	WEST OF THE RIO GRANDE Johnny Mack Brown (356)	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326) TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	SEVEN DOORS TO DEATH Chick Chandler June Clyde D—60 mins. (417) DELINQUENT DAUGHTERS June Carlson Fifi D'Orsay D—72 mins. (416)	SONG OF NEVADA D—75 mins. (344) GIRL WHO DARED D—56 mins. (322) BORDERTOWN TRAILS O—56mins. (451) (1944-'45) PORT OF 40 THIEVES D—58 mins. (324)	(Sixth Block) GILDER-SLEEVE'S GHOST Harold Peary Marian Martin C—63 mins. (426) MARINE RAIDERS Pat O'Brien Ruth Hussey D—91 mins. (427)	(July Releases—no definite date set) ROGER TOUHY, GANGSTER Preston Foster Victor McLaglen D—65 mins. (431)			MR. SKEFFINGTON Bette Davis Claude Rains D—127 mins. (319)
Aug. 12	KANSAS CITY KITTY Joan Davis Bob Crosby Jane Frazee C—(5012)	THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427)					A NIGHT OF ADVENTURE Tom Conway Audrey Long D—65 mins. (428)	HOME IN INDIANA Walter Brennan Jeanne Crain D—103 mins. (433) (Color)	(Special Release) SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Claudette Colbert Joseph Cotten D—171 mins.	TRAIL TO GUNSIGHT Eddie Dew Maris Wrixon O—(8087)	
Aug. 19	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330)	MACHINE GUN MAMA Armida El Brendel C—(421) DIXIE JAMBOREE Frances Langford M—72 mins. (505) (1944-45)	SING, NEIGHBOR, SING! Brad Taylor M—70 mins. (401) (1944-'45) SAN ANTONIO KID O—56 mins. (3313) (1944-'45)	STEP LIVELY Frank Sinatra George Murphy M—88 mins. (429) YOUTH RUNS WILD Kent Smith Jean Brooks D—67 mins. (430)	CANDLELIGHT IN ALGERIA (British) James Mason Carla Lehmann D—85 mins. (432)		IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Aug. 26	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—(5002)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)							JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C	(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)	CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill D—(513) (1944-45)	RIDE, RANGER, RIDE (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3306)	(Special Release) GOYESCAS Imperio Argentina M—110 mins. (461)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases)		GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins.	CRIME BY NIGHT Faye Emerson Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(1944-'45)	CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M—(509) (1944-45)		(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)			MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402) NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—(4403)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—(41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345) STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)			THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D	(Ninth Block) (incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501) BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502)	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D	OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404) DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—(4405)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(1944-'45)		(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases)			PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—(1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Raymond Massey D—118 mins. (1944-'45)
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O				BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434)	SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503)			SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—(1944-'45)	
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503) MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)		MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505)			THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(1944-'45)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE DARK Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)			BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—(1944-'45)	STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Eric Von Stroheim D—86 mins. (323)	MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)				



Let's get back to
ENTERTAINMENT
in a *BIG* way.....

Paramount

will soon present, in supreme Technicolor,
the full-dress filming of the great romantic
best-seller of this decade, by
the author of "Rebecca"



—with no Mission but to delight Millions with its sumptuous Beauty and its gloriously Daring tale of Love.

JOAN FONTAINE
ARTURO DE CORDOVA
in

Frenchman's Creek

A MITCHELL LEISEN PRODUCTION

with

Basil Rathbone • Nigel Bruce • Cecil Kellaway
Ralph Forbes • Harald Ramond

IN TECHNICOLOR

B. G. DeSYLVA, Executive Producer

Screen Play by Talbot Jennings • From the Novel by Daphne du Maurier

Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN

Watch Films In Video: Fly

(*Continued from page* 1)

television pictures on a motion picture screen. Moreover, the record or transcription of the local television station is likely to be a motion picture reel, shipped in from a distance. It is conceivable that this form of local television broadcasting may be quite interesting, and, hence, quite successful," he added.

Provisions have been made by the FCC to permit networks to acquire television transmitting stations at all important points of program origin, Fly revealed, and said: "Serious consideration is being given to providing a radio 'highway' to link television stations into networks. Such highways may be wide enough to be capable of carrying a multiplicity of programs and may thus become a method of long-distance transmission," he explained.

Fly added that television networks are also desirable in order to link not only the nation, but also other continents of the world.

In reviewing the radio field, Fly revealed that the network and independent stations reported to the FCC a record net time sale of $196,000,000 in 1943, compared to $164,000,000 in 1942. Net income from broadcasting in 1942, after all expenses, but before Federal taxes, amounted to about $45,000,000, and in 1943 reached the all-time high of $66,000,000, he said.

Video to Bring Film, Radio Closer: Coe

CHICAGO, Aug. 30.—The advent of television will bring radio and the film industry into a closer alliance, Charles Francis Coe, counsel for the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association, told the National Association of Broadcasters meeting at the Palmer House.

"I welcome television as a new feature in the vast industry of entertainment and education," he said, "and I think I am safe in saying that if television is to bring about a wedding between certain motion picture and radio functions, each can be a proud and happy spouse."

Coe addressed a public relations clinic praising the radio industry's accomplishments.

Trotta, Donner to Judge

Motion pictures, radio, the stage and the arts will be represented on the committee of judges for the 11th annual "Miss America Pageant" at Atlantic City, Sept. 5-9. The finals will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9. Vincent Trotta, art director of National Screen Service, will be among the judges, along with Vyvyan Donner of Fox Movietone News, "Hap" Hadley, Russell Patterson, Harry Conover and Conrad Thibault.

WANTED Ambitious young showman as publicity aide for group of six neighborhood theatres in and near NYC. Excellent opportunity if you want to make showmanship your career. Write full details—age, experience, military status, etc.

BOX 233
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 Sixth Ave., N. Y. 20.

Review

"Reckless Age"

(*Universal*)

DESPITE its title, "Reckless Age" is no weighty commentary on juvenile delinquency but an airy musical spun around the personality and voice of Gloria Jean. Producer-director Felix E. Feist has obtained a winsome performance from Miss Jean, who was surrounded with a cast equipped to play in a broadly comic vein. It all adds up to diverting entertainment.

The gossamer story, scripted by Gertrude Purcell and Henry Blankfort, from an original by Al Martin, wanders along the familiar bypaths of the poor-little-rich girl who, weary of a life that is plotted for her to the last detail, kicks over the traces and vanishes from the care of her wealthy grandparents, Henry Stephenson and Kathleen Howard. Without funds, she takes a job as salesgirl in one of the stores owned by Stephenson in a small town removed from New York. There she enjoys her unconfined life until she is suspected of stealing from the store by Marshall Thompson. A rather hilarious climax involving baby pigs who run amuck in the store fetches Stephenson from New York, presumably to respect Miss Jean's new-found freedom.

Miss Jean ably renders several light musical classics; there are the Delta Rhythm Boys to harmonize, and Harold Nicholas to sing a rhumba and deliver a rapid-fire tap dance. Others featured prominently are Franklin Pangborn, Andrew Tombes, Judy Clark and Jack Gilford.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 17.

CHARLES RYWECK

*"G" denotes general classification.

Booster Radio Series For N. Y. War Fund

"War Town," a series of real-life dramas presented under the auspices of the New York War Fund and the New York suburban community chests, has started on station WEAF and will continue on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Ralph Bellamy, Victor Jory and Celeste Holm were co-starred in the first program, and others will feature Anna May Wong, 'Skippy' Homeier, Sgt. Edmond O'Brien, Nancy Kelly, James Monk, Hester Sondergaard, Dean Jagger, Raymond Edward Johnson, Alice Frost, Joan Caulfield and Joan Tetzel.

The series, produced and directed by Robert Lewis Shayon, will present stories based on the work of the USO, United Seamen's Service, War Prisoners Aid, United China Relief and other War Fund agencies.

Ferguson Opens MGM Chi. Meeting

CHICAGO, Aug. 30.—William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation manager, opened a two-day meeting at the Blackstone Hotel here today with company publicity heads of the Midwest district managed by Sam Shirley. Discussions on exploitation of pictures in subsequent run houses and cooperation with small town exhibitors, now and after V-Day, highlight the meetings.

In town for the meetings are Jack Connor, Omaha; Austin McGough, Des Moines; Norman Pyle, Minneapolis, and Louis Orlove, Milwaukee. Chicago is represented by J. E. Flynn, Western division manager; Bill Bishop, Western publicity head, and Bill Green and Warren Lee, of the local publicity department. Shirley is in California on his vacation until Sept. 13.

Gering Joins Serlin

Marion Gering, screen and stage director, has joined Oscar Serlin Associates here as an independent director.

Two Join Classics; Franchise to Dezel

W. J. Cammer has been named office manager of the Film Classics exchange in Dallas by John L. Franconi, franchise holder there. Cammer was formerly manager for Monogram in Dallas. Al Grubstick, formerly with Warners' sales department, has been appointed branch manager for Classics in San Francisco.

The home office reported yesterday that Albert Dezel, director of Film Classics in Michigan and operator of Albert Dezel Roadshows, has closed a franchise deal to handle all of Classics', Goldwyn, Roach, Selznick and Gaumont-British product in Cleveland.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Aug. 30

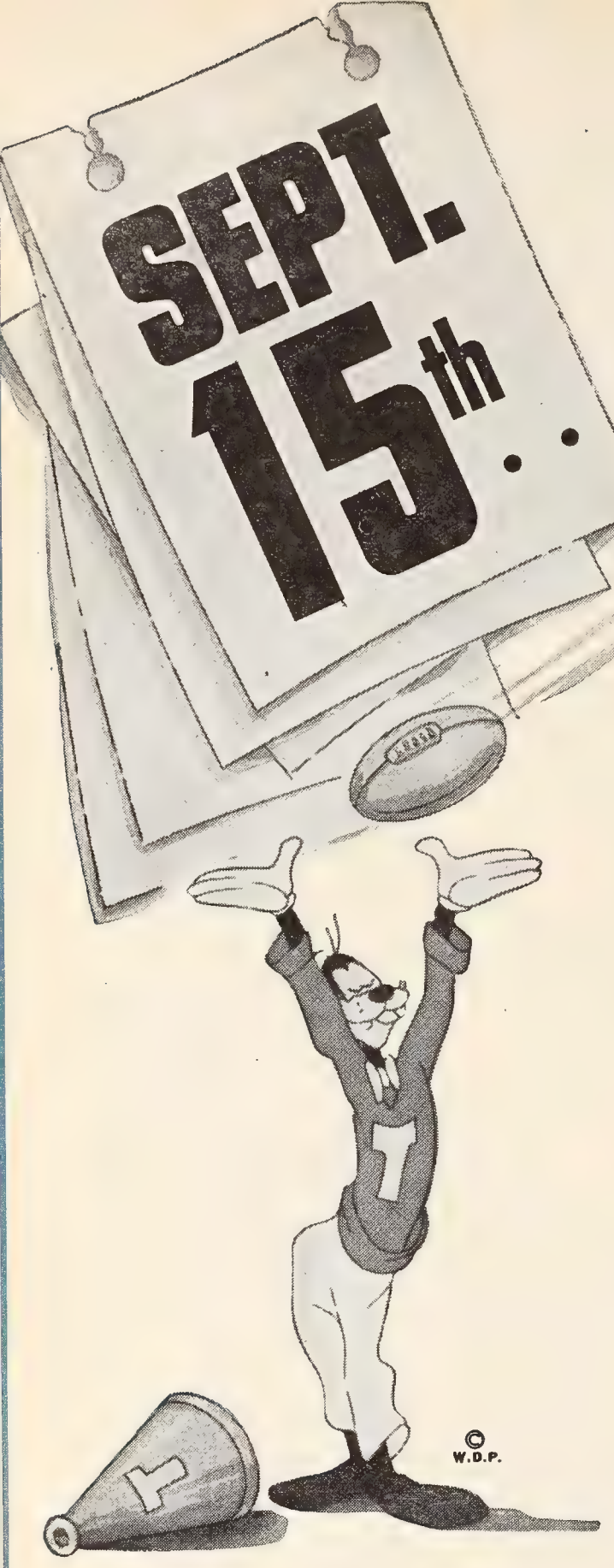
THE best-seller list continues one of the most valuable sources of screen material, as demonstrated by the fact that among M-G-M properties currently in release or being readied for release are 17 adaptations of popular novels. Pearl Buck's "Dragon Seed" heads the list, which includes Louis Bromfield's "Mrs. Parkington"; "The Seventh Cross," by Anna Seghers; "National Velvet," by Enid Bagnold; Oscar Wilde's "The Canterville Ghost" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray"; and "Gentle Annie," by MacKinlay Cantor.

Others now being prepared for early production are: "The Valley of Decision," by Marcia Davenport; "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," by George Victor Martin; A. S. M. Hutchinson's "If Winter Comes"; "The Sun Is My Undoing," by Marguerite Steen; "Taps for Private Tussie," by Jesse Stuart; and "The Green Years," by A. J. Cronin. Another novel, still unpublished, but which, it is expected, will make the best-seller list when it appears in September, is Elizabeth Goudge's "Green Dolphin Street," winner of M-G-M's annual novel award contest.

•

Jack Baxley will make his 200th screen appearance on M-G-M's "Thrill of Romance," color musical starring Esther Williams and Van Johnson. . . . The life story of Jimmy Stewart will be included in one of the forthcoming Screen Snapshots produced by Ralph Staub for Columbia. . . . Max Steiner will do the musical score for "Roughly Speaking" at Warners. . . .Dorothy McGuire and Herbert Marshall will have the top roles in "The Enchanted Cottage," which Harriet Parsons will produce for RKO Radio.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW!
WASHINGTON, D. C.
TERRITORY ONLY
"LOST IN A HAREM"
20th-FOX SCREEN ROOM
932 New Jersey Ave., N. W.
THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 7 —1 P.M.



. . . THAT'S WHEN

216

of the Nation's Ace Theatres will show

WALT DISNEY'S

"HOW TO PLAY FOOTBALL"

Starring **GOOFY**

A One Reel Subject in Technicolor

A new day-and-date record for one-reel bookings...with Radio City Music Hall heading the list of 216 de luxers playing this new Walt Disney laugh riot!

A WALT DISNEY Production

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First in Film and Radio News Brief Accurate and Impartial

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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VOL. 56. NO. 44 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1944 TEN CENTS

Arthur to Sue To Test Award Enforceability

Will Sue Regardless of St. Louis Case Outcome

Harry Arthur and his unaffiliated St. Louis Amusement Co., operating 33 theatres in St. Louis, will make a Federal court test of the legality of both arbitration proceedings and the enforceability of arbitration board awards, Arthur told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here yesterday.

Arthur declared that he will make an issue of the constitutionality of arbitration awards regardless of the nature of the decision of the St. Louis arbitration tribunal in the pending proceedings brought by Albert Rosecan, in behalf of his Princess Theatre, St. Louis, to have clearance held by several St. Louis Amusement theatres reduced.

Arthur stated that his action will

(*Continued on page* 5)

Streamlining of NSS Sales Policy Planned

Disclosure of a new "streamlined" sales policy heads the agenda of the three regional sales meetings scheduled by National Screen Service for this month, while plans for 1944-45 and postwar promotions also will be outlined. The meetings are being designed as a highlight of the "George Dembow Tribute," honoring the company's vice-president in charge of sales.

The new sales policy, Dembow ex-

(*Continued on page* 5)

Polio Halts Detroit Child Matinees

DETROIT, Aug. 31.—Representatives of the motion picture houses in Detroit today entered into a voluntary agreement to suspend all special children's weekend matinees because of the polio outbreak. The decision followed a conference with Dr. Bruce H. Douglas, Detroit Health Commissioner. The spread of the disease postponed the opening of the schools.

Short Subject Costs Up 30-40% in 1945

An average rise of 30 to 40 per cent in the cost of short subjects in 1944-45 is indicated as producers plan to meet exhibitor demands for expanded quality and variety in this field, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today.

More shorts will be made in color than ever before, and there will be an increased number of two-reelers, most of them musicals.

Decree Talks Up to Companies: U. S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—Department of Justice officials today exhibited little inclination to act on any suggestion that they call in decree distributor counsel for further conferences on the decree, taking the position that the five companies are the ones who would benefit from a consent settlement and, accordingly, it is up to them to submit new proposals in the present new decree stalemate.

Decree counsel in New York were described in a MOTION PICTURE DAILY dispatch yesterday as being "perfectly willing" to respond to any call from the Department for a reopening of negotiations for a new decree.

Justice Department officials declare

(*Continued on page* 6)

Wage Pacts Signed For Exchanges In Six More Cities

Applications are to be filed today with regional War Labor Boards having jurisdiction in the New Haven, Buffalo, Atlanta, Memphis, Milwaukee and Denver territories for approval of a system of job classifications and wage scales for front office "white collar" workers in exchanges in those cities. The contracts were signed here yesterday between the eight film companies and the IATSE.

Filing of the first application with a regional WLB here for similar workers in Albany exchanges was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 22. Applications will be filed in all exchange centers except Los Angeles by the IATSE locals. Similar workers in the New York exchanges

(*Continued on page* 6)

New Showmanship a Postwar Need: MGM

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—Warning that the average patron now attending motion pictures two or three times a week may cut down visits to once a week when the war boom is over, William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation director, meeting yesterday and

(*Continued on page* 6)

"Arsenic and Old Lace"

[*Warner Brothers*]

Hollywood, Aug. 31

A TITLE flashes a warning, in effect disavowing anything that might happen in Brooklyn. Fair enough, for much does in this faithful translation of the Broadway play that has regaled New Yorkers and others of the citizenry West of the Hudson. Now it will regale who knows how many times its legitimate theatre audiences.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is the last picture produced and directed by Frank Capra before foregoing civilian activities for the uniform of his country. If the timeclock is of any essentiality, this means over two years ago. The film has been under Warner lock and key while the play was on tour and while topical subjects, keyed to war, were dominating the Warner release schedule.

This attraction acknowledges no battles, no strife. It is an ingenious story, zanie and screwy, about two charming maiden ladies whose minds are off balance and whose house flanks a cemetery under the Brooklyn Bridge; their harmless, but insane, nephew who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt; another nephew who turns out to be adopted, but a dramatic critic anyway; still another who is nuts, too, and a dangerous killer. Surrounding scenery is additionally embroidered by a girl, a plastic surgeon and a couple of dumb cops.

Josephine Hull and Jean Adair are the charming spinsters. They are

(*Continued on page* 5)

Managers Not Executives, Can Unionize

SLRB Orders Election For RKO's Managers

The New York State Labor Board has recognized the right of theatre managers and assistant managers to unionize, contrary to the contention long held by circuit heads that they are supervisory employes performing the functions of executives, and, therefore, are not eligible for union membership.

Both circuit executives and union leaders here viewed the ruling, made yesterday, handed down in a pending case involving the petition of RKO managers to organize, as having possible national significance in the growing movement of managers to unionize in many places.

RKO theatre executives are studying a move to challenge the ruling by the state board in ordering a collective bargaining election held within 30 days

(*Continued on page* 5)

McDowall Tops in Canada Star Poll

Canadian exhibitors have named Roddy McDowall, young English player, their first choice in *Motion Picture Herald's* "Stars of Tomorrow" poll, selecting him by a narrow margin over Sonny Tufts, whom U. S. exhibitors picked as their favorite last week. McDowall stood fourth in the U. S. balloting.

Four other players on the U. S. list were favored by Canada as well. James Craig, second choice of U. S. showmen, took fourth place in the Canadian poll. Barry Fitzgerald and Sydney Greenstreet were sixth and eighth, respectively, on both sides of the border. Helmut Dantine, ninth in the U. S. ranking, was 10th in Canada.

Three of the four Canadian choices not among the U. S. top 10 were well up in the next 15. Dennis O'Keefe

(*Continued on page* 5)

No Paper Monday

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published on Monday, Labor Day.**

Personal Mention

HARRY M. WARNER is due here today from Hollywood. JACK L. WARNER will arrive here around Sept. 25.

•

PVT. DICK CONNERS, former MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondent in Albany, visiting this publication's offices yesterday, from Camp Wood, N. J., reported the birth recently of a second daughter, MARGARET, at Brady Maternity Hospital, Albany.

•

EDWARD L. KUYKENDALL, president of the MPTOA, has returned to his Columbus, Miss., headquarters following a six-week check-up at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, will leave Wednesday for the Coast to confer with studio executives on new product.

•

JOHN H. DAVIS, joint managing director of Odeon Theatres, London, who recently arrived in New York after a six-week survey of Canada for J. ARTHUR RANK, returned yesterday to London.

•

WERNER R. BEADER, national supervisor of the field forces for Ross Federal Service, has returned from a tour of Southern and Southwestern branches.

•

CHARLES FRANCIS (SOCKER) COE of the MPPDA has arrived in New York from Chicago and will return to Florida next week.

•

CHARLES B. MOSS, and his wife, PAULA, became the parents of a son, born Tuesday, at Lenox Hill Hospital.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warner Bros., will return today from Boston.

•

SAM KESTENBAUM, PRC exploitation manager, will leave today for St. Louis on a week's business trip.

•

HARRY A. ROSS has returned to the Ross Federal Service home office here after a visit to New England branches.

•

LOU POLLOCK, director of advertising and publicity of United Artists, will leave for Hollywood today.

120 Brandt Theatres

Acquisition, announced here yesterday, of the Beacon Theatre at Broadway and 73rd Street, gives the Harry Brandt circuit its 120th theatre, operating in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, Long Island, Westchester and Northern New Jersey.

The Beacon, a former Skouras operation, will be reopened in 30 days after renovations.

Film Bond Sales 'Tickle' Treasury

Joseph Kinsky, industry co-ordinator of the Fifth War Loan, has returned to New York from Washington following two-days of conferences with Ted Gamble, national Treasury War Finance director, and U. S. Treasury statisticians relative to film industry results in the recent campaign. Kinsky said Gamble was "tickled to death with what the industry has done" and will soon make a public announcement of the total bonds sold by the industry.

Big 'Wilson' Opening In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 31.—Twentieth Century-Fox put on an elaborate premiere here of Darryl F. Zanuck's "Wilson" at the Warfield Theatre Tuesday night, attended by society, political leaders, officers of the Armed Forces and film stars and executives. Buildings in the neighborhood were decorated with banners. The theatre's front had been entirely rebuilt, featuring six-foot letters. Music was furnished by a Coast Guard band.

Among those present were: Spyros Skouras, Zanuck, Charles Skouras, Carmen Miranda, William Bendix, Gracie Fields, William Eythe, Joan Blondell, Mary Anderson, Roddy McDowall, Anne Rooney, Grace McDonald, Reginald Gardiner, Roy Benson and Ina Claire.

'Fan' Magazines to Aid Film Bond Drive

Cooperation of motion picture "fan" magazines has been promised for the Sixth War Loan, following a meeting of editors and industry drive officials called by campaign publicity director John Hertz, Jr. The meeting was held at War Activities Committee New York headquarters.

Hertz outlined the difficulties presented by the anticipation that Allied victories would create an apathy in the bond-buying public, and requested that the editors submit proposals to combat this apathy. The proposals are to be submitted at a meeting to be held shortly.

SPU Attacks SAG's Rule on Wages

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 31.—At a meeting of 800 class "B" extras Thursday night, the Screen Players Union attacked Rule 36, claiming the rule against demanding pay adjustments prior to performing work causes "injustices." The union also criticized the SAG for failing to press arbitration with producers on matters pending since April 1942. It was alleged producers are using the wage stabilization act as an excuse for lowering wages.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Aug. 31

DARRYL F. ZANUCK leaves Friday night for the "Wilson" openings in Washington, Philadelphia and Atlanta.

•

Leo J. McCarthy, PRC general sales manager arrives Saturday for conferences with Leon Fromkess, PRC president, on next season's product. McCarthy will be here a fortnight.

•

Pvt. Richard (Red) Skelton was recovering today from an operation performed in the Camp Roberts base hospital yesterday for the removal of a cyst from his eye.

•

Ann Sheridan will star in Warners' "When Old New York Was Young," with James Kern directing and Jerry Wald producing.

•

Columbia will start a school of dramatic arts at the studio to train new talent. Frank S. Ferguson will be dramatic coach.

•

Carmen Carr, daughter of Trem Carr, Monogram executive producer, was married yesterday to Harry J. Perry, Jr.

•

Larry Kent, National Theatres executive, and his bride, the former Edna Downs, are enroute East.

•

George J. Schaefer will fly to New York tomorrow. He is due back here in October.

•

Charles D. Prutzman is expected to leave for New York next Thursday.

•

John Cheever Cowdin will leave for New York on Sunday.

Setting Pact of 'IA' Film Editors Here

Negotiations are expected to be completed next week for a contract between the IATSE Motion Picture Film Editors Local 771 and newsreel and short subject producers in New York covering some 200 film editors and film librarians.

The workers are seeking to institute a series of five job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales which would provide wage increases, vacations with pay and severance pay.

Louis Krouse, IATSE general secretary-treasurer, is handling the negotiations for Local 771.

New Post for Condon

Mabel Condon, writer and publicist, has joined the public relations staff of Russell Birdwell and Associates at the New York office. Miss Condon has been handling commercial and industrial accounts for Birdwell.

W. O. Jenkins Sells Interests in Clasa

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 31.—William Oscar Jenkins has sold his stock holdings in Clasa Films, large Mexican producer, and in the Banco Cinematografico, the film industry's own bank, to the Nacional Financeria, the government's fiscal society, and to the National Bank of Mexico. Clasa Films also includes Clasa studios, the largest in Mexico, valued at $1,000,000.

Jenkins, an American who made a fortune in sugar in Mexico, is understood to have consummated the deal in order to devote his attention to other interests, including the operation, with Mexican associates, of a large theatre circuit in the provinces and one consisting of 22 theatres here, including six first-runs.

This year, up to July 31, the industry's bank made loans and credits of $1,213,565 to the industry. The Film Industry Credit Union also advanced the industry $71,150 in cash and the Cinematographic Industry Financing Society $68,375.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Bonita Granville Kent Smith
Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon
'YOUTH RUNS WILD'

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
'BATHING BEAUTY'
Red SKELTON
EstherWILLIAMS
IN PERSON
RUBINOFF
and HIS VIOLIN
MENASHA SKULNIK
Radio's 'Poppola Cohen'
EXTRA!
CHUCHO MARTINEZ

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE
& His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
"WILSON"
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by Henry King
Written for the Screen by Lamar Trotti
A 20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

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IT'S NEWS







STRAIGHT TO YOUR TICKET WINDOW . . .



HOT ON EVERY NOTE!

4 NEW OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD SONGS! ...played by the King of Swing and his million dollar band!

SLICK-CHICK GALS! (Hm-m-m-nice!)

BENNY GOODMAN · LINDA DARNELL
AND HIS BAND

LYNN BARI · JACK OAKIE in

SWEET AND LOWDOWN

with James Cardwell · Allyn Joslyn
John Campbell · Roy Benson · Dickie Moore

Directed by ARCHIE MAYO · Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON

Screen-Play by Richard English • Original Story by Richard English and Edward Haldeman • And Introducing These Hit Songs: "I'm Making Believe" • "Ten Days With Baby" • "Chug, Chug, Choo-Choo, Chug" "Hey Bub! Let's Have A Ball" by Mack Gordon and James Monaco



JIVE THAT'S ON FIRE!

GAGS RIGHT OUT OF THE OVEN!

BIG AND SO TYPICALLY 20TH CENTURY-FOX!

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Arthur to Sue To Test Award Enforceability

(Continued from page 1)

name as defendants the arbitration board and the five decree consenting companies, which would be compelled, under the decree, to reduce Arthur's clearance, to benefit Rosecan, if the St. Louis board so ruled; if the board sustains the clearance held by the Arthur houses, Arthur will sue anyway, he said. His aim, he added, is to halt all arbitration proceedings on grounds of illegality.

He pointed out that although an exhibitor who refused to abide by an arbitration award against him could refuse to play the product of the decree distributors applying the award, the exhibitor would, in effect, be cutting off a product supply.

Defines Rentals and Awards

Arthur pointed out that decree distributors do not reduce film rentals when they reduce a theatre's clearance under an arbitration award, nor do they increase the rental of the competing theatre who benefits by the reduced clearance forced upon the theatre whose clearance is reduced.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday reported that a Department of Justice source in Washington had "suggested" that a solution to the controversy might be found in a court suit to determine whether an arbitration award under the consent decree is enforceable against an exhibitor who refuses to become a party to the proceedings. E. V. Richards, New Orleans, and Griffith Amusement Co., Oklahoma City, similarly challenged the enforcement of arbitration awards under the decree some time ago but did not make a court issue of the proceedings.

The Department of Justice explained that it is not obliged in such a situation to support the arbitration board and that if Arthur has any fault to find, it would lie with the distributors who supply him with product.

Russell Hardy, former Department of Justice lawyer, counsel for St. Louis Amusement, this week launched Arthur's attack on the constitutionality of the arbitration provisions of the decree after the St. Louis arbitration tribunal had rejected St. Louis Amusement's motion for dismissal of the arbitration proceedings filed by Rosecan.

Petition for Dismissal

Hardy's petition for dismissal of the arbitration proceedings charged that they constituted a violation of Article I, Section 1, of the U. S. Constitution in that the action of the said parties and of the District Court creating an arbitration system constitutes a usurpation of the legislative powers of the U. S. Congress; that the authority vested in the American Arbitration Association and the motion picture arbitration tribunal and the method for arbitration of claims stated in the consent decree are unlawful and violate Article III, Section 1, of the Constitution in that the AAA is not a court and has usurped judicial powers which the District Court has no authority to transfer to it; that the consent decree was not authorized by the Sherman Anti-trust Act and that it is no remedy for the alleged monopoly stated in the trust suit of the U. S. vs. Paramount, et al.; that the non-defendant theatres are not parties to the decree, being unrelated to the defendants in the decree case and that they did not participate in the alleged monopolistic practices but, in fact, were damaged by such practices; that the arbitration system is unlawful because it continues the alleged conspiracy and monopoly stated in the case of U. S. vs. Paramount; and, finally, that the relief sought by the complainant (Rosecan) is unlawful because it would deprive the non-defendant (Harry Arthur) theatres of their property without due process of law, under Article V of the amendments to the Constitution.

"Arsenic and Old Lace"

(Continued from page 1)

God-fearing, church-going, and in them decidedly flows a peculiar milk of human kindness. Their charity centers around homeless old men. Since they cannot stand the pain of their loneliness, the ladies cheer them with elderberry wine, heavily dosed with arsenic. This simple device ends the despair of the lonely hearts, terminates their world troubles. The ladies give each of their approximate dozen, and unsuspecting, victims, a decent Christian funeral and bury them in the cellar via assistance of 'Teddy Roosevelt,' who thinks he's digging the Panama Canal and burying a series of yellow fever unfortunates.

Cary Grant, who thinks his aunts who turn out not to be his aunts, are charming—and they are—discovers one victim and soon enough staggers into knowledge of the others. This interrupts his honeymoon with Priscilla Lane, and it persuades him to have 'Teddy' finally committed to Happyland. While this uproar is on, Jonathan, the other nephew, returns after a couple of decades with a 'staff' of his own on the back seat of his auto and Peter Lorre, his conspirator in crime. They need refuge from the police, learn the secret of the Panama Canal and bludgeon their way into protection by intimidations and threats of exposure. This puts Grant in a position as impossible as the rest of the tale after learning the spinster ladies are so guilty. Jonathan is about to carve Grant into intricate designs when the police shake off the lead and ride to the rescue.

"Teddy" is committed and the rest of the problem solved when the spinsters refuse to allow him to leave unless they go along as well. First, however, they tell Grant who he is, thereby demonstrating the only insanity in his makeup is the insanity of the events he has been passing through.

These essentials of the whacky story are required to indicate the pace it establishes and the laughs it creates. Miss Hull, who appeared in the stage play in New York, is the cast standout. Whether he determined it or Capra, Grant plays his part very broadly, constantly bordering on burlesque. It might be argued that more of a straight acting performance would have heightened believability, but there's an answer to that one, too: "Arsenic and Old Lace" is not supposed to be believed. It's supposed to be enjoyed. There seems little doubt that it will. There seems little doubt, also, it would have been improved in less footage.

Supporting cast members, all competent in their roles, include Jack Carson, Edward Everett Horton, James Gleason and Grant Mitchell. John Alexander re-lives the "Teddy Roosevelt" character of the play.

Running time, 120 mins. "G."* Release date, Sept. 23.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

McDowall Tops in Canada Star Poll

(Continued from page 1)

stood 10th in Canada, 13th in the U. S.; Lena Horne fifth in Canada, 14th in the U. S.; and Susanna Foster third in Canada, 16th in the U. S. Turhan Bey, ninth in the U. S.; was 12th in Canada. Belita, seventh in Canada, did not appear among the first 20 in the voting of U. S. exhibitors.

Wage Pacts Signed For 6 More Cities

(Continued from page 1)

of M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia and United Artists are represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, CIO.

The job classification plan sets up 18 job classes with minimum and maximum scales and provides for a minimum 10 per cent wage increase. Benefits are retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943.

MPOE Calls Meeting On New Warner Pact

Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169, AFL, here has called a meeting of Warner home office employes for Tuesday evening at the Hotel Capitol to consider counter proposals made by Warner executives for a new contract covering over 600 home office "white collar" workers.

A two-year agreement between MPOE and Warners expired Aug. 10. The company and the union have been negotiating a new contract for weeks. One of the stumbling blocks is understood to be the union's demand for a closed shop.

Managers Not Executives, Can Unionize

(Continued from page 1)

among both managers and assistant managers in some 41 RKO theatres in the Metropolitan New York area. The outcome will determine whether they will designate the unaffiliated Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers, Assistants and Cashiers as their exclusive bargaining agent.

At the same time the SLRB separated RKO theatre cashiers and cashier secretaries from the bargaining unit. The IATSE had claimed jurisdiction over the latter two groups.

Theatre managers and assistants were organized by the AFL in New Jersey several years ago but the unionization drive collapsed before a test case could be made.

Bargaining Aspects

In line with SLRB procedure, it is understood, the RKO managers' election must be held but RKO can refuse to bargain with the union if it wins. This would lead to an unfair labor practices charges which, it is assumed, the union would file, and pave the way for a test case in the courts on the right of managers and assistants to organize.

Although the union of RKO theatre managers has no affiliation with either the CIO or AFL, it is viewed as probably affiliating with the CIO. Hyman Glickstein of the law firm of Boudin, Cohn and Glickstein, which represents several CIO unions, among them the Screen Publicists Guild in New York and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, represents the RKO theatre managers and assistants.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 18, CIO organizers are in Chicago in an effort to organize theatre managers there, despite the aims of the IATSE to organize these workers. Applications for charters by several theatre managers groups were made at the IATSE convention in St. Louis last May.

Streamlining of NSS Sales Policy Planned

(Continued from page 1)

plained yesterday, will give the exhibitor greater flexibility in the use of accessories, enabling a concentration on a specific campaign on whichever days of the week an exhibitor wishes to stress.

First of the sessions, attended by personnel of the East and Southeast, will be held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here Sept. 8-10, and employes from the Central, Midwest and Southwest exchanges will gather at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Sept. 15-17, with Herman Robbins, NSS president, expected to be present at both meetings. West Coast and Rocky Mountain staffs will attend a meeting at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles Sept. 22-24.

TBA Meet Dec. 11-12

The first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association will be held in New York Dec. 11-12 at the Hotel Commodore.

New Showmanship a Postwar Need: MGM

(Continued from page 1)

today with Midwest exploiteers at the Blackstone Hotel here, told the staff to be on the alert for "after-V-Day" ideas and to be prepared for a greater competitive market. "We must be ready with new exploitation plans to keep theatre grosses up," Ferguson declared.

At a press conference following the close of the final three-day session, Ferguson disclosed that the meeting also covered M-G-M's plans to increase cooperation with subsequent-run houses and to help small-town exhibitors meet individual problems. He explained that no specific exploitation budget will be set for any town or theatre but that each account will be treated individually, with the company spending money to promote subsequent runs whether or not the exhibitor contributes financially to the campaign and regardless of the terms of the picture. Simpler advertisements and stories are being prepared, he added, and said further research will determine other specific aids.

Chicago, Omaha, Des Moines, Milwaukee and Minneapolis territories were represented at the meeting.

Today Ferguson exchanged ideas with William Hollander, B. and K. press chief; Larry Stein, Warner Theatres publicity head; M. M. Rubens, Great States Theatres executive; and Jack Rose, president of Indiana-Illinois Theatres.

Decree Talks Up to Companies: U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

that the position of the Department was made clear in the petition for modification of the decree and in explanatory statements which have been issued.

The suggestion that the Department make the first overtures followed a statement by Wendell Berge, Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, that he and his associates were willing at any time to talk to the distributors regarding any points felt by the latter to be doubtful. That statement, however, it was said today, meant just what it said and was not to be construed as a peace feeler put out by the Government.

The door is still open to the companies if they desire to make another attempt to reach an out-of-court settlement, a spokesman for the Department said, and will remain so right up to the time a court decision is rendered, if the issue reaches the courts.

Marie Starz, 85, Dies

DALLAS, Aug. 31. — Mrs. Marie Starz, Mother of F. O. Starz, advertising director of the Interstate Circuit, Inc., passed away today at the home of her son here. Mrs. Starz was 85 and had many friends in show business in New York and Hollywood. Burial services will be held Saturday, Sept. 2, at the Holy Trinity Church in Dallas.

Reviews

"Our Hearts Were Young and Gay"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, Aug. 31

THE early and girlish adventures of Cornelia Otis Skinner and Emily Kimbrough, her friend, are pinioned pleasantly and humorously in a young and gay and fluffy attraction accurately titled "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."

There is nothing of importance about this film in the sense that a wholesale public is impatiently and restlessly waiting for it, but it is this reviewer's solidly entrenched forecast that a widely flung public will be the more amused for having seen it.

The keynote here certainly is not story, for story is what this one has virtually nothing of. The charm and the recurring hilarity develop from a series of incidents strung together and woven around two kittenish girls—Gail Russell and Diana Lynn—who are moonstruck and lovestruck in strict conformity with their tender and formulative years. Their plotting takes them to Europe without chaperone, but with parental consent. It embarks them upon a refreshing series of new experiences aboard ship. It continues these madcap misadventures in London, later Paris. Then, the Summer is over and back to America and school they return. That's all.

It sounds like little enough. In firm and solid story substance, it is little enough. Yet therein is not the answer. It is far more a case of how things happen to them and what they do about them than of what happens in that far-off year of 1923. The laugh climax in the lobby of a Paris hotel when the girls return in their slips protected by blankets after an innocent night locked on the observation platform of Notre Dame Cathedral and the misunderstanding of the situation which assaults their puppy-love boy friends and leads into a free-for-all is a precious piece of business. And very apt to convulse in a theatre.

The two leads play in the spirit of their roles and with deference to the conventions of 21 years ago. Nice support comes from James Brown, Bill Edwards, Charlie Ruggles, Dorothy Gish, Buelah Bondi and Alma Kruger. Cast power is not sufficient to project "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" into top playing time, nor is the attraction itself. Nevertheless, the accounting which it finally registers undoubtedly will be gratifying to all hands concerned. Those hands include Sheridan Gibney, who wrote the script and produced, and Lewis Allen, who directed with intelligence and an alert sense of comedy values.

Running time, 81 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 1 for 1944-45.

RED KANN

"San Diego, I Love You"

(Universal)

THE fortunes of the MCooleys sail entertainingly on a collapsible life raft invented by Edward Everett Horton, alternating between ripples of delightful comedy and an appealing romance between Louise Allbritton and Jon Hall, in "San Diego, I Love You," produced by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. Under Reginald Le Borg's nicely-paced direction, the result is a thoroughly pleasant and amusing light comedy which should satisfy the customers.

The inspiration for the McCooleys, who are Horton, his daughter, Miss Allbritton, and his four young motherless sons, probably came from the story by Ruth McKenney, author of "My Sister Eileen," and Richard Branston. Horton is a reticent small-town high school teacher who perfects a life raft and a waterproof flare gun. Much against his inclinations, Miss Allbritton takes over promotion of the invention, uprooting the family and hustling them to San Diego. It requires considerable persuasion before Hall, a shy millionaire, is finally convinced of the merits of the invention. Some of the complications are hilarious and involve the crowded housing situation in San Diego; Eric Blore as a determined butler with two left hands; and Buster Keaton, a downtrodden bus driver who is induced by Miss Allbritton to break with his habits of 10 years' standing. The romance between Hall and Miss Allbritton is neatly handled. A preview audience at RKO's 81st Theatre here was generally receptive.

Fessier and Pagano wrote the screen play in addition to providing an attractive production. Rudy Wissler, Gerald Perreau, Charles Bates and Don Davis are the likeable McCooley youngsters and Irene Ryan has a nice bit as an unwanted boarder.

Running time, 83 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 22.

MILTON LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

$24,500 'Beauty' Cleveland Opening

CLEVELAND, Aug. 31.—"Bathing Beauty" opened very big at Loew's State and is holding strong, with $24,500 in sight. "Louisiana Hayride" on the screen, with Peter Lorre and Freddie Stack's orchestra on the stage, are leading the RKO Palace gross to a good $26,000. "Janie's" $18,000 estimate at Warners' Hippodrome is fair.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 30:

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $8,500).

"Janie" (WB)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Freddie Stack's Orchestra and Peter Lorre. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $19,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000).

Gross of "Kansas City Kitty" with Frankie Carle's orchestra and vaudeville was estimated last week at $36,000; actual take was $39,000.

RCA's Joyce Sees Early Television

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—With 63 applications for television stations on file with the Federal Communications Commission, approximately 50,000,000 people throughout the country may have sight-and-sound broadcasting six months to two years sooner than even the most optimistic previous estimates, Thomas F. Joyce, RCA executive, told the National Association of Broadcasters war conference here today.

In 18 months to two years after the end of the war, rather than in three to four years as originally estimated by RCA, television service may cover 46 per cent of the potential "video" market as a result of television license applications now actually on file, which increased from seven to 63 in the past 10 months, Joyce told the broadcasters.

Goldenberg Dies in India

David Goldenberg, who recently managed the Metro Theatre in Bombay, India, died there Tuesday of pneumonia which he contracted following a minor operation; the Loew-M-G-M home office reported here yesterday. He was at one time with Loew's State Theatre, New York, and the New Empire Theatre in London.

Bess Dies in France

NASHVILLE, Aug. 31.—Memorial services were held this week for Pfc. Charles N. Bess, 29, former manager of the local Woodbine Theatre, who died in action in France. Bess was in the Army 18 months. His wife, Patricia, survives.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 45 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1944 TEN CENTS

Grosses Hit 3rd Highest Spot This Year

$18,217 Average Is Best Since March

With film attendance profiting from a break in the record heat wave which ended 10 days ago, and the return of large numbers of school pupils from long Summer vacations, average boxoffice grosses in a cross-section of 127 key first-run spots jumped last week to $18,217 per theatre, the highest figure since mid-March and third highest for the year, according to MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents' reports.

The weekly average for all of August was $16,838, compared with $15,993 for July and $14,985 for August of 1943, showing that the wartime theatre business boom is still running high. Indeed, a continued climb is reflected by the fact

(*Continued on page 6*)

Gould Foresees More Distribution Centers

Because of the vast havoc done to transportation and communications facilities in Europe in the war, U. S. distributing companies will require many more distribution centers than existed before, according to Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager. Gould declared that the film business will not be able to pick up where it left off prior to the war because Europe will be subject to a lengthy reconstruction period.

UA's foreign sales head will leave for Spain in a month to survey the situation there, with special reference to the new prohibitive import duties

(*Continued on page 3*)

Loew, RKO Houses Set on New Product

There will be no changes in the 1944-45 product lineup for the 68 Loew theatres and the 41 RKO houses in the Metropolitan New York area.

Deals which are understood to have been set for the new season call for Loew's to take M-G-M, Paramount, Columbia and United Artists product and RKO to play 20th Century-Fox, RKO and Warner films. Each circuit will play one-half of Universal's films, as in previous years.

Prosperous Holiday For Film Theatres

Reports reaching here yesterday from widely scattered areas disclosed that theatre grosses for the Labor Day weekend rode high on the crest of the wave of prosperity enjoyed at box-offices almost everywhere since the heat wave of record length and intensity ended ten days ago. The latter factor, plus the return home of thousands from long Summer vacations sent receipts last week to the highest since last March, averaging $18,217 per theatre in downtown key runs.

Prepare New Tax Plan for Postwar

A program for postwar taxation designed to adjust income, corporation and excise taxes to a level which will provide necessary revenue for the Federal Government and at the same time insure continuance of high employment, is being prepared by the Committee For Economic Development here for submission next month to the House Ways and Means Committee.

The House Committee is currently engaged, in cooperation with the Treasury, in studies of postwar revenues.

Nazis' Robot-Bombs Blitzed 46 Houses; 27 Were Destroyed

Twenty-seven theatres were destroyed in the London area up to the last count, David Rose, Paramount British managing director, informed MOTION PICTURE DAILY, prior to his departure, scheduled for London at the weekend. Nineteen others were closed as a result of damage, but several have been repaired and reopened.

According to reports reaching him from London, Rose said, business which dropped off to practically nothing in the first five weeks of the robot bombing, is building up again. Business in the provinces is very good because of the influx of a fleeing population from London, he said.

Rose, on his return to England will

(*Continued on page 3*)

Sherman Continuing Cassidy Series in '45

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—Harry Sherman, independent producer, said here at the weekend that he intends to continue to produce Hopalong Cassidy Westerns at the rate of six a year with an undesignated player replacing William Boyd, who has appeared in the series for many years.

Sherman indicated that United Artists will continue to release the films but that the deal has not been finalized.

See Decree Test Barred If Arthur Wins Decision

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Court action on the motion of Harry Arthur and his unaffiliated St. Louis Amusement Co. challenging the constitutionality of the arbitration system under the consent decree can be obtained only through a suit for an injunction against the St. Louis tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, according to opinion in informed circles here, and it is questioned whether this could be done if the tribunal should hold the clearance of Arthur's theatres not unreasonable.

As reported Friday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Arthur has declared that he will make a Federal Court test of both arbitration proceedings and the enforceability of arbitration board awards regardless of the tribunal's decision in the pending proceedings brought by Adolph Rosecan in behalf

(*Continued on page 3*)

Independents Get Break on Holdovers

Chicago, Sept. 4.—Independently-owned first-run theatres in the Loop are benefitting by the extended runs of new product in the affiliated Balaban and Katz and RKO theatres, with distributors, forced to find outlets for unsold product, turning to independents for playing time.

United Artists, Columbia and Republic are among those looking for dates at such independent first-runs as the Oriental, Woods and the Downtown.

Film-Hungry French Hail Allies' Films

Crowds Are Comparable To B'way, Piccadilly

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Sept. 4.—Eyewitness reports by news correspondents, plus the writer's private information here, reveals that the original, carefully-conceived military plan to have films follow the invasion's first attack waves proved highly successful in Normandy and Brittany, where tonight American and British pictures are playing to ecstatic audiences at all surviving theatres.

There are no words possibly expressive of this public enthusiasm, due not only to the excitement generated by the Allies' liberation, but also to the genuine film hunger and the great desire to know what has happened in the outer world in

(*Continued on page 3*)

Export Controls Wait War's End

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Export controls on motion pictures will not be lifted with the end of the war in Germany, although they may be relaxed. The extent of relaxation will depend upon conditions at the time, officials concerned with film regulation said today.

OWI and censorship controls will have to be maintained to such a degree as is required for security reasons, it was pointed out here.

At the same time, officials here made no secret of their desire to return export controls to the industry as soon as

(*Continued on page 3*)

Release Special Reel On Paris Liberation

A special reel devoted entirely to the liberation of Paris by French patriots and Allied troops was rushed to completion by each of the five newsreel companies at the weekend and released yesterday at key first-run houses. Films showing sniping within the city and the entry of American soldiers were not received from Washington in time for inclusion in the regular reels made up Thursday for release tomorrow but will appear Friday on screens throughout the country.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 4

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, is enroute to Washington for the premiere of "Wilson" there.

•

Barry Fitzgerald's performance in "Going My Way" brought him stardom at the weekend. He was signed by Samuel Bronston for "Ten Little Indians," for UA release. Later he will be starred in "The Flying Yorkshireman," followed by William Dozier's first under the latter's new RKO producer-contract.

•

William Pereira, recently signed as RKO producer, will make three pictures, "The Adventures of Sinbad," "All Brides Are Beautiful" and "Johnny Angel." Following these he will produce one starring George Raft.

•

George L. Bagnall, UA vice-president, left on the Superchief at the weekend.

•

Danny Dare, Paramount dance director, was elevated to a producership.

•

M-G-M bought "Hippodrome," an original by Samuel Hoffenstein.

Australia Filming Off for Duration

CHICAGO, Sept. 4.—R. E. Lane, executive of the MacQuarie Network, Sydney, Australia, who attended the convention of the National Association of Broadcasters here last week, disclosed that with the exception of the government-sponsored "The Rats of Tobruk," now in production, film production in Australia will remain dormant for the duration. The MacQuarie Network holds an interest in Australian-New Zealand Theatres, Inc., theatre circuit.

Lane said that American films and stars are highly popular in his country and top anything imported by other foreign producers.

Pollock to View New U. A. Product

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—Lou Pollock, United Artists director of advertising-publicity, is due here tomorrow from New York to confer with company producers on new season's product.

In addition to seeing recently completed films and meeting with their producers to discuss publicity and advertising campaigns, Pollock is scheduled to confer on early promotional plans for "I'll Be Seeing You," "The House of Dr. Edwardes," "Guest in the House," "Dark Waters," "Three Is a Family," and "Tomorrow the World."

Three More to Gregory

CHICAGO, Sept. 4.—S. J. Gregory, president of Alliance Theatre Corp. here, reports the acquisition of the State, Parkway, and Roseland theatres, from Lou Reinheimer. The theatres are located in the suburbs.

Personal Mention

AUSTIN C. KEOUGH, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, is expected to return today after a vacation of several weeks.

•

LT. BOB SCHULBERG, formerly of MORT BLUMENSTOCK'S publicity department at Warner Bros., is the father of a boy born last week to MRS. SCHULBERG at Long Beach, L. I., hospital.

•

J. J. UNGER, United Artists' Western division manager, returned to the home office over the weekend after visiting the company's Western exchanges.

•

RUD LOHRENZ, United Artists' Chicago district manager, is in town conferring with CARL LESERMAN, U. A. general sales manager.

•

BERNIE KAMBER, head of United Artists' special events department, will leave today for Baltimore and Washington.

•

PVT. HAROLD WINSTON, former general manager of Cobian Theatres of Puerto Rico, is here on furlough from Havana.

•

ELLINGWOOD KAY, Warner Bros.' Eastern story editor, will return today from a vacation.

•

A. PAM BLUMENTHAL, Warner short subject producer, will return to New York this week from the Coast.

•

FRED PERRY, manager of Schine's Olympic Theatre, Watertown, is in New York on vacation.

•

JOE GERSHENSON, Universal producer has arrived in New York from Hollywood with his family.

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, Universal vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, and MRS. SEIDELMAN have announced the engagement of their daughter, FLORENCE, to LT. NORMAN BARNETT of the U. S. Army Signal Corps.

•

STAFF SGT. VINCENT LACEY, formerly of Universal's advertising accessory department here, has returned to the U. S. after 30 missions over Europe. He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and an air medal with three clusters.

•

LENORE GOTTLIEB, daughter of ARTHUR GOTTLIEB, head of Film Laboratories of Canada, Ltd., Toronto, was married recently in that city to CALMAN FABER of Toronto.

•

FLIGHT OFFICER JACKIE COOGAN is now at George Field, troop-carrier command, at Lawrenceville, Ill., having been transferred as an instructor from Stout Field, Indianapolis.

•

JOHN GRIERSON, commissioner of the Canadian National Film Board, has returned to Toronto from an inspection of the Normandy battlefields.

•

BETTY JANE GRAHAM, daughter of HARRY GRAHAM, Universal Southern district manager, was recently married to FRED DIEFEL.

•

BEN CRONK of Empire-Universal, Toronto, was in Montreal over the weekend.

•

LOU BRAGER of Warner Bros. home office real estate department, has returned from Pittsburgh.

•

E. Z. WALTERS, Altec comptroller, left New York at the weekend for Hollywood.

Gell to Represent Levey in London

William Gell, active in British distribution and exhibition for many years, has been appointed London representative for Jules Levey, producer for United Artists, the latter disclosed here over the weekend.

Gell was managing director of Pathe Pictures, Ltd., and was also associated with British International Pictures, Associated British Pictures and with Pathe Equipment, Ltd. He is now in London.

Livingston Heads FC Foreign Department

Maurice Livingston, formerly with Warners, Pathe, United Artists and RKO for more than 17 years in France, has been named head of the new foreign department of Film Classics circuit.

Sol Cohen, associated with various film companies in the Midwest, has joined Film Classics of Michigan, covering the Western half of Michigan, working under Albert Dezel, franchise holder for Michigan and Cleveland.

Republic Deal for 10 Films in Spain

Republic has concluded a distribution deal on a participation basis with Ulargui Films, Spanish distributor, for a minimum of 10 dubbed films to be released in Spain, Morris Goodman, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign distribution declared at the weekend.

The deal, which is for available Republic product, including current releases, was consummated prior to the adoption by Spain of new import duties, said Goodman. The import levies have been described as prohibitive by foreign department spokesmen here. It is expected that a protest by the organized industry will be made through the State Department.

Moneyhun Joins U.A.

Frank Moneyhun, former advertising manager at 20th Century-Fox and at one time associated with Paramount and the Orpheum circuit, has joined United Artists in the home office advertising department. He will assume his new duties today.

Coming Events

Sept. 4-9—United Office and Professional Workers of America convention, Philadelphia.

Sept. 7—Anti-Defamation Day rally and luncheon, New Amsterdam Theatre Roof, New York.

Sept. 7-8—National Allied directors' meeting, Bretton Woods, N.H.

Sept. 10—National Screen Service sales meeting, New York.

Sept. 12—Meeting of industry officials for Sixth War Loan at War Activities Committee headquarters, New York.

Sept. 13—United Artists board meeting, New York.

Sept. 15—Exhibition representatives of New York State meet with labor department officials on building code, New York.

Sept. 15-17—National Screen Service sales meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 21—National Screen Service sales meeting, Los Angeles.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
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Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon
'YOUTH RUNS WILD'

STATE
ON SCREEN
'BATHING BEAUTY'
Red SKELTON
Esther WILLIAMS
IN PERSON
RUBINOFF
and HIS VIOLIN
MENASHA SKULNIK
Radio's 'Poppola Cohen'
EXTRA!
CHUCHO MARTINEZ

Paramount Presents Preston Sturges'
'HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO'
Starring EDDIE BRACKEN
IN PERSON VAUGHN MONROE & His Orchestra
Buy War Bonds
Air-Conditioned
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PAY OFF IN THE PACIFIC!
WING AND A PRAYER
"THE STORY OF CARRIER X"
20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
TOMORROW! 8.30 A.M.
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46 St.
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'way & 47 St.

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Film-Hungry French Hail Allies' Films

(Continued from page 1)

the four years of virtual imprisonment.

For example, the Cinema Moderne, at Bayeux, tonight has enormous lines waiting to see Michael Balcon's "Champagne Charlie," latest Ealing release only premiered in London this week but drawing crowds at Bayeux comparable to London's Piccadilly Square and New York's Broadway at their best attractions.

Sidney Bernstein's Merit

Great credit is due Sidney Bernstein, founder of Granada Theatres, Ltd., here, and at present a "dollar-a-year man" in the British Ministry of Information's Second Psychological Warfare Department of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, for his handling of the many problems of the French "Invasion" of British and American films. He had to argue with the exiled foreign governments and had to contend with political and personal prejudices and also jealousies of British and American producers.

The final outcome was that 40 American and 12 British features were made available for screening in France, after a prolonged discussion with many authorities, including the French Information Mission. Complete programs were prepared in London jointly by the MOI and the U.S. Office of War Information, and the French exhibitor either played the programs in their entirety or obtained nothing. Also, the French authorities decreed one feature only, thereby chalking up a victory for American anti-dual distributors battling for years on that point. A program consists of a feature plus an information short, either a MOI documentary or a specially produced information piece made in London by the French Plus Le Monde Libre newsreel which is normally 950 feet long, but this week was specially extended to 2,000 feet to view General De Gaulle's entry into Paris.

Booking Arrangements

Bookings are all on a percentage basis. Bookings, physical distribution, transport, etc., are being handled solely by four men, all nominees of the American film companies, with SHAEF's civil affairs officers having overriding control.

Examples have occurred where French managers, denounced as collaborationists, have been removed by the military authorities with Army officers taking discreet, nevertheless drastic action wherever it was indicated as necessary, acting on local and reliable evidence.

The original plan was to let the populace use the American-British films as soon as a town was liberated and it worked well in Normandy, where mobile generators moved forward with the troops and, consequently, films were shown in places where the town's electricity still was not functioning. Mobile projectors were provided for shows in town squares devastated by Allied bombings and gunfire. No more moving example of this was in Caen, where thousands of people returning to their wrecked homes from the countryside and climbing out of their cellar shelters after days and nights of shellfire, embracing Allied soldiers and showering them with gifts, were summoned to an open-air unveiling of the newsreel Monde Libre and impassionately sang the "Marseillaise." This was a common experience with the mobile vans moving right up to the Somme and Seine River valleys.

Paris theatres, inoperative owing to an absence of power, were being made ready for a Sunday opening.

SHAEF'S civil affairs branch, in cooperation with industry experts, are currently inspecting studio facilities, particularly at Joinville. It is authoritatively learned that many months' work will be necessary on sound studio facilities before French production is possible.

46 London Theatres Blitzed, Says Rose

(Continued from page 1)

line up studio space for Hal Wallis' first British production for Paramount, which, he said, will go into production in May. Rose will also cast British players for the film in which Ronald Colman may star. Wallis, in his deal with Paramount, is committed to produce one-third of an undetermined number of films in Britain, with the balance to be made in Hollywood. The first British film will be "Whenever I Remember."

Paramount's British production, which is at a standstill at present due to the shortage of studio space and available players, Rose said, will be resumed as soon as possible. "If the war in Europe ends soon and we can get people over there, we will start production." Paramount, he said, owns the rights to the late Sir James M. Barrie's plays and already has scripts on "The Admirable Crichton" and "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals."

Rose will return here from London about December or January to participate in further discussions with Wallis, Joseph Hazen and Barney Balaban, Paramount president, on plans for British production.

Fuller Hits Demand To Close Theatres

LONDON, Sept. 4.—The Lord's Day Observance Society's demand that the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association close their theatres yesterday, the anniversary of Britain's declaration of war and also a day set aside by King George for prayer, received a sharp rebuff from W. R. Fuller, secretary, who said:

"With virtually every family in the nation affected, they, the families, are the best judges. I think the continued opening of theatres is one factor that is making a big contribution to victory and peace. You have only to contrast this with the situation in Germany where the recent closing of theatres is a portent of defeat."

Hold Final Meeting On Raw Stock Cut

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Members of the Industry Advisory Committee will come to Washington this week for final discussion of the raw stock cut with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board photographic section.

Burrows still believes, after further conferences with industry members and Army and Navy officials that it will be possible to meet the situation with a curtailment of a little more than 15 per cent for the current quarter, enabling a return to practically full allocations in the final three months of the year.

Gould Foresees More Distribution Centers

(Continued from page 1)

recently levied, and the dubbing facilities there. UA is scheduled to release 11 films in Spain this season, Gould said, with others to follow. He will also visit England and Sweden, with a projected trip to the liberated countries planned, if possible, to "pick up the threads" of UA's former foreign organization.

Gould pointed out that experiences in Italy to date indicates that once a country recedes from the front lines it does not necessarily follow that it will be opened to commercial channels in short order.

Second picture to follow on Dudley Murphy's Mexican production schedule for UA, Gould said, will be "Acapulco," a musical. Murphy's first, "Soul of Bronze," will be released this Fall in Latin-America, he said.

Export Controls Wait War's End

(Continued from page 1)

possible and emphasized that Byron Price, director of censorship, has repeatedly said it was his aim to get censorship out of the picture as soon as possible after the end of the war.

In official circles, it was held extremely unlikely that controls on exports would be maintained any more than six months after the end of the war, and the policy now is to turn the foreign film business back to the industry as soon as possible after liberation.

'SYWA' Set for 33 Key City Openings

"Since You Went Away," produced by David Selznick and released through United Artists, now having its premiere showing at the Capitol here, has been booked for 33 September engagements in key city Loew theatres.

It will open Sept. 14 in Nashville, Dayton, Toledo, St. Louis, Baltimore, Norfolk, Richmond, Washington, Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Norwich, and later in the same month in Atlanta, Providence, Columbus, Houston, Louisville, Kansas City, Wilmington, Memphis, Rochester, Syracuse, Cleveland, Canton, Akron, Evansville, New Orleans, Buffalo, Harrisburg, Reading, Boston, Pittsburgh and Indianapolis.

SeeDecreeTest Barred if Arthur Wins

(Continued from page 1)

of his Princess Theatre, St. Louis, to have clearance held by several of Arthur's St. Louis Amusement houses reduced.

The sole question, it was said, is whether an exhibitor whose clearance over another is the subject-matter of an arbitration proceeding, and who does not see fit to intervene and "submit" as provided for under the arbitration rules, has a property right in that clearance which can not legally be affected by an award in favor of the complainant.

Problem of Property Right

If there is no such property right, it was pointed out, then the exhibitor would have no standing to attack the procedure or raise the other questions involved in the motion of Russell Hardy, counsel for Arthur. Most of the questions, it was recalled, were presented to Judge Henry W. Goddard in New York Federal District Court by protesting exhibitors when the original consent decree was being considered.

It was pointed out, further, that if it should be held that there is a continuing property right in clearance which an exhibitor has the legal right to protect, there will be no more "submissions" by intervenors and the arbitration system would fall.

It was admitted in all quarters here that the issue raised by Arthur is important.

Independents' Dissatisfaction

Independent exhibitors were represented as dissatisfied with arbitration as it now stands, but strongly opposed to its elimination, which would "freeze" the situation and leave them with no recourse against unfair clearance terms. It was pointed out, here, however, that the issue poses a problem for the distributors who have claimed, on the one hand, that their affiliated houses have a property right in the clearance granted them, and, on the other hand, have asserted the exclusive right to fix clearance for independent theatres.

Meanwhile, in an interview here with MOTION PICTURE DAILY, the refusal of the St. Louis tribunal even to accept his motion was characterized by Hardy as "a rather strange proceeding." He said the St. Louis board would not even keep the petition but sent it back. "It is strange for an agency operating under a court to refuse to entertain a question as to jurisdiction," he commented.

In view of the tribunal's action, and the added fact that the arbitration hearing on the clearance complaint of Rosecan against the decree distributors will not be opened until Sept. 25, Hardy said, no decision has been made as to the direction of Arthur's next step, but he indicated the matter may be taken to the courts, even before or during the arbitration proceedings.

AJB Promotes Teplitz

CHICAGO, Sept. 4.—Albert Teplitz, booker for A. J. Balaban Theatres Inc., here has been named general manager.

"WILSON"

the 642nd picture to play the Roxy, New York, in its 17½-year history is the first ever to be HELD OVER for a 6th WEEK!



DIRECTED BY
HENRY KING

WRITTEN BY
LAMAR TROTTI

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

OVER ALL AMERICA... THE PLA

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S

WILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR



ES OF THE CENTURY FROM 20th CENTURY-FOX

Denver Pays $26,250 To 'In Society'

DENVER, Sept. 4.—"In Society" on a dual at the Denver and Esquire theatres put the Denver in the lead with a box office report of $26,250, while "Going My Way" at the Denham for its fourth week grossed $12,000. "Song of the Open Road" at the Paramount was expected to hit $14,880 and moveovers were reported doing better than fair.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 31:

"Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ALADDIN — (1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,240. (Average: $5,600).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,630. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM — (1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Black Magic" (Mono.)
DENVER — (2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $26,250. (Average: $15,000).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Black Magic" (Mono.)
ESQUIRE — (740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $4,500).
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
"U-Boat Prisoner" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,880. (Average: $9,300).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
"Oh, What a Night" (Mono.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,250. (Average: $5,000).

Yascha Bunchuk, Music Director, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—Yascha Bunchuk, 48, former orchestra conductor at the Capitol Theatre, New York, and more recently a motion picture musical director, died here Friday following a brief illness.

A cellist of note, Bunchuk came to this country in 1922 after a concert career in Europe. He played with the New York Symphony Orchestra before going to the Capitol, where he remained more than six years. He was also at the New York Roxy.

Warners Names Kelly

Harvey J. Kelly has been named field supervisor of Warners film checking service in Seattle and Portland territories, it was reported here yesterday by R. P. Hagen, manager of the checking department. Kelly, who will have headquarters in Seattle, succeeds Warren L. Fennell.

Braden Joins RKO

CHICAGO, Sept. 4.—Frank Braden, Ringling Bros. Circus press agent, will join the RKO publicity staff here next week, succeeding Art Catlin, resigned.

MITCHELL MAY, Jr. CO., INC.
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Specializing
in requirements of the
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Grosses in the Highest Spot Since Last March

(*Continued from page* 1)

that the gain of August over July this year averaged $845 per week while the similar gain last year averaged $413.

The rise in August was steady, going from $15,913 in the first week through $16,433 in the second, $17,850 in the third, to the record of $18,217 for the fourth.

A sensational money maker of the month was "Going My Way," which appeared 24 times in the correspondents' reports as a key-city weekly leader. Typical: The film registered $8,100 over average at the Ambassador, St. Louis; $11,000 over par at Loew's State, Cleveland; $14,000 at the Chicago in Chicago and $18,000 at the Newman in Kansas City. It pulled $23,000 at the RKO Palace in Cincinnati, a record for the house, became the first picture in the history of Radio City, Minneapolis, to be held over a third week, and hung up a record total in excess of $100,000 for five weeks at the Great Lakes, Buffalo.

Second leader for the month was "Mr. Skeffington," followed by "Dragon Seed," "Bathing Beauty," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "The White Cliffs of Dover," "Wing and a Prayer," "In Society," "Christmas Holiday," "Take It or Leave It," "Step Lively" and "The Canterville Ghost." "Wilson" was the high grosser in both of its two weeks in Los Angeles, and "Since You Went Away" topped the San Francisco field with $25,000 at the $11,000-average United Artists' Theatre in the week of its premiere there.

Other films grossing appreciably during the month were "Take It Big," "I Love a Sailor," "Show Business," "South of Dixie," "Home in Indiana," "Mlle. Fifi," "Four Jills in a Jeep" and "The Eve of St. Mark."

Composite key first-run boxoffice reports to date, compared with the same week last year, follow:

1944 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Dec. 31-Jan. 1	135	$2,213,500	$16,396
Jan. 7-8	117	2,417,700	20,664
Jan. 14-15	134	2,040,700	15,229
Jan. 21-22	149	2,311,400	15,513
Jan. 28-29	147	2,365,200	16,090
Feb. 4-5	153	2,512,200	16,419
Feb. 11-12	137	2,220,900	16,211
Feb. 18-19	155	2,459,800	15,870
Feb. 25-26	161	2,760,100	17,144
March 3-4	147	2,397,100	16,307
March 10-11	147	2,463,400	16,758
March 17-18	153	2,661,100	18,761
March 24-25	150	2,487,700	16,585
Mar. 31-Apr. 1	152	3,025,000	13,329
April 7-8	153	2,340,600	15,298
April 14-15	143	2,506,800	17,530
April 21-22	148	2,564,200	17,326
April 28-29	130	2,090,900	16,084
May 5-6	143	2,238,700	15,655
May 12-13	146	2,338,700	16,018
May 19-20	162	2,417,000	14,926
May 26-27	155	2,349,400	15,157
June 2-3	143	2,242,500	15,683
June 9-10	141	1,938,000	13,752
June 16-17	135	1,934,400	14,322
June 23-24	136	2,002,800	14,726
June 30-July 1	126	2,178,300	17,288
July 7-8	145	2,490,900	17,178
July 14-15	144	2,228,500	15,476
July 21-22	148	2,321,400	15,685
July 28-29	135	2,245,400	16,632
Aug. 4-5	141	2,324,500	15,777
Aug. 11-12	148	2,355,200	15,913
Aug. 18-19	153	2,514,100	16,433
Aug. 25-26	141	2,516,800	17,850
Sept. 1-2	127	2,313,600	18,217

1943 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 1-2	151	$2,813,506	$18,632
Jan. 8-9	154	2,424,300	15,742
Jan. 15-16	149	1,830,500	12,285
Jan. 21-22	127	1,648,600	12,981
Jan. 29-30	127	1,789,500	14,091
Feb. 5-6	126	1,743,000	13,040
Feb. 12-13	132	1,919,000	14,588
Feb. 19-20	139	1,885,900	13,568
Feb. 26-27	149	2,005,200	13,458
March 5-6	142	1,933,400	13,615
March 12-13	151	1,944,600	12,878
March 19-20	143	1,968,300	13,764
March 26-27	147	1,938,200	13,185
April 2-3	123	1,785,800	14,519
April 9-10	147	2,029,100	13,803
April 16-17	147	1,868,500	12,711
April 23-24	158	2,006,200	12,634
Apr. 30-May 1	154	2,284,200	14,184
May 7-8	161	2,168,400	13,468
May 14-15	161	2,053,700	18,967
May 21-22	158	2,096,200	13,267
May 28-29	155	2,036,600	13,139
June 4-5	169	2,289,700	13,548
June 11-12	166	1,865,873	11,240
June 18-19	163	1,961,600	12,034
June 25-26	168	2,125,300	12,650
July 2-3	164	2,133,800	13,010
July 9-10	153	2,433,700	15,906
July 16-17	151	2,109,400	13,970
July 23-24	155	2,185,100	14,097
July 30-31	164	2,347,900	14,316
Aug. 6-7	138	2,032,400	14,727
Aug. 13-14	166	2,302,200	13,869
Aug. 20-21	153	2,341,600	15,304
Aug. 27-28	175	2,681,500	15,322
Sept. 3-4	163	2,559,900	15,705

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Mass. Theatres File Clearance Appeal

Leominster Allied Theatre Corp., operator of the first-run Plymouth and Metropolitan, Leominster, Mass., has filed an appeal of the award of the Boston tribunal in eliminating clearance of these theatres over the Playhouse, Ayer, Mass., operated by Ayer Playhouse, Inc., the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Leominster was an intervenor in the original clearance complaint filed by the Playhouse against the five consenting companies, asking elimination of clearance held by its two theatres.



FILM DUBBING
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Spanish Sound Studios
41 E. 42 St. N. Y. 17 MU 2-5358

WMC Alters Labor Area Designations

Exhibitors in five areas, including Hartford, should find it easier to obtain workers for their theatres in view of the action of the War Manpower Commission in taking these areas out of the acute labor shortage classification since the manpower situation has improved so that war production in the areas is no longer endangered. The other four areas are Newport, R. I., Portland, Me., Hastings, Neb., and Eureka, Calif.

On the other hand, exhibitors in Pontiac, Mich., Marion, Ind., Freeport and Joliet, Ill., will find their manpower problems increasing since the WMC has now labeled those areas "critical."

MOT's Len Lye Here

Len Lye, March of Time's British director, has arrived in the U. S. to supervise a series of films for MOT, it was reported at the weekend.

Production at Summer Low; 44 on Stages

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4. — Production dropped to a new low for the Summer last week, with nine features completed while only four were started. Total work was 44, compared to 47 in the preceding week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Hello, Mom," "Tonight and Every Night."

Started: "Song of Tahiti," with Jinx Falkenburg, Dave O'Brien, Mary Treen.

Shooting: "Raiders of Quanto Basin," "Tonight We Dance," "A Woman's Privilege."

M-G-M

Finished: "Airship Squadron 4," "Music for Millions."

Started: "Women's Army," with Lana Turner, Laraine Day, Susan Peters, June Lockhart, Agnes Moorehead.

Shooting: "Telltale Hands," "Thrill of a Romance," "Gentle Annie," "The Clock," "Dr. Red Adams," "Anchors Aweigh," "Son of Lassie."

Monogram

Finished: "They Shall Have Faith."

Paramount

Finished: "Dangerous Passage" (Pine-Thomas).

Started: "Salty O'Rourke," with Alan Ladd, Stanley Clements, Gail Russell.

Shooting: "Kitty."

PRC

Shooting: Untitled Buster Crabbe production and "Hollywood and Vine."

RKO

Finished: "Two O'Clock Courage."

Shooting: "China Sky," "Pan-Americana," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Shooting: "Thoroughbreds," "The Big Bonanza," "Next Comes Love" (Sydney Williams), "Lake Placid Serenade."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Nob Hill," "Winged Victory."

United Artists

Shooting: "The Great John L" (Crosby); "High Among the Stars" (Rogers); "Brewster's Millions" (Small); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Finished: "Penthouse Serenade" (formerly "Swingaroo Sweethearts").

Started: "Jungle Captive," with Otto Kruger.

Shooting: "Accent on Rhythm," "Arsene Lupin," "Can't Help Singing."

Warners

Finished: "Objective Burma."

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green."

Independent

Shooting: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank); "Mom and Dad" (Associated Film Producers).



Official U. S. Marine Corps Photo

GUADALCANAL has two seasons, the rainy and the wet. During the wet season, you just have rain . . . in the rainy season, you have rain *and floods*.

But G. I. Joe jams down his hat, turns up his collar, and, every time a movie comes to camp, sits in a puddle and dreams he's back in the good old U. S. A. Back where the sun's warm and pleasant on the back of his neck—back where his feet are dry, and he's dry all over.

You bring the boys "back home" for a few blessed hours every time you send them movies. The motion picture industry has sent and is sending to combat areas hundreds of current features on 16-mm. film for showings in camp and on ship. This is just one of many accomplishments of the movies at war.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N. Y.

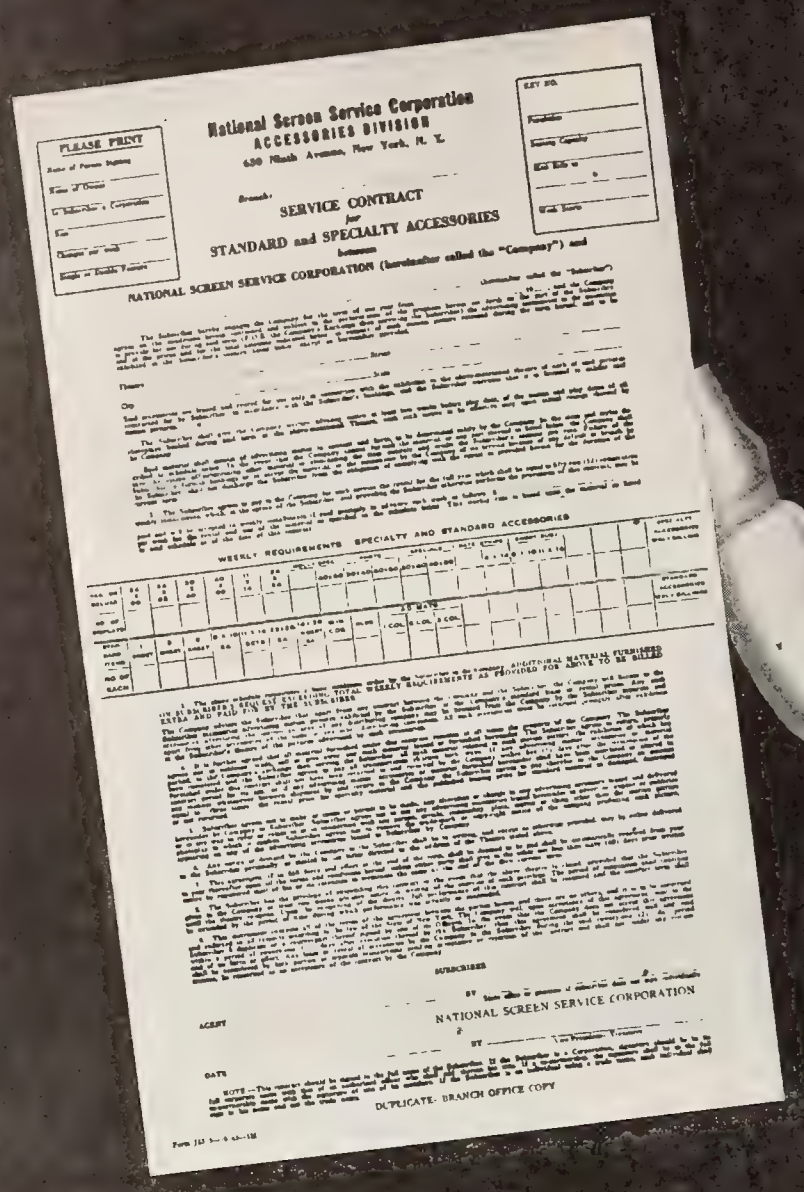
J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



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ACCESSORIES DIVISION
630 Ninth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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between
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Somebody once said of contracts: "The big type gives it to you, but the small type takes it away." Our answer to that can be best provided by any account on our books. For they have come to regard the promises of our Advertising contract, and our almost fanatical observance of same, as a sort of Exhibitor's Bill of Rights or Theatrical Magna Charta. It would be untrue to say that the war hasn't made any difference. It has. But it is equally true that all our wartime handicaps have made us battle just that much harder to make good our obligations. We are naturally proud of this scrap of paper, because the industry has very definitely come to regard its signed commitments—good as gold.



NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY T
SIDE OF THE TROOPS THAT NEVER STO

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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VOL. 56. NO. 47 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1944 TEN CENTS

Loew's Puts Up 3 Millions for Pension Plan

Administrative Setup Being Formulated

Loew's, Inc., has made an initial ayment of $3,000,000 to the trus- es of the company's employe's re- rement plan for administrative urposes, it was learned here yes- rday. Trustees of the plan, approved Loew stockholders at their annual eeting on July 18 and covering out 4,300 employes, are: Eugene W. ake, William A. Parker and Henry ogers Winthrop. The cost of the an for the first year is estimated to about $3,500,000, retroactive to arch 1, 1944.

Distribution of application blanks r each individual participating in the an started this week. When all ap- ications are turned in and approved the retirement plan committee,

(Continued on page 3)

Allied Board Heads Arrive for Meeting

BRETTON WOODS, N. H., Sept. 6.— lied directors started to arrive here day for the meeting of the Allied ates board which will be held here ursday and Friday at the Mt. ashington Hotel with Assistant At- ney General Robert L. Wright, in arge of the Justice Department's ti-trust division, scheduled to speak the consent decree. Also on the enda will be a discussion of a pos- le new source of product.

Among those who will attend are: ram F. Myers, general counsel of tional Allied, and Mrs. Myers; Roy

(Continued on page 3)

Anti-Defamation Film Rally Today

Richard Gudstadt, national director B'nai B'rith's Anti-Defamation ague, will be a guest speaker, along th Quentin Reynolds, at the amuse- nt industry's "Anti-Defamation y" rally and buffet luncheon at the w Amsterdam Theatre Roof today, be attended by executives and work- s from virtually all industry offices re.

The arrangements committee for rally include: Barney Balaban, rry Brandt, Max Cohen and Nate ingold.

Huffman Urges a Quiet Peace Thanks

Denver, Sept. 6.—Harry E. Huffman, head of Fox Denver theaters, urging an orderly celebration when Germany falls, is preparing a trailer for the 12 Fox theatres here—citing the fact that many Americans will still be facing death on the battlefronts when the Nazis quit.

"When Germany falls, the war will be only half over. Half the war will remain to be fought. Those whose husbands, brothers and sons are still on the battlefronts are looking to us to keep our heads when V-day arrives," Huffman observed.

"When Germany falls let us all be grateful, solemn, serious, as the occasion demands," he added.

Film Outlook For Postwar

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—Pooled reports secured today from War Production Board, War Manpower Commission and other governmental agencies controlling men and materials presents an immediate postwar outlook for the film industry as follows:

Production of seats, carpets and other theatre equipment will expand quickly and broadly.

Projector and sound-equipment production will increase as military requirements for component parts are reduced.

Raw stock availability will improve

(Continued on page 3)

Demobilization to Release Some of Industry's 38,000

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—Thousands among the film industry's 38,000 members of all branches of the Armed Forces are seen subject to Army demobilization when the war with Germany ends. There will be no Navy demobilization until the end of the war with Japan is over.

Plans for the partial demobilization of the Army immediately following the defeat of Germany were disclosed today by the War Department, which warned, however, that months might elapse before all of the unneeded servicemen are returned to this country for discharge.

The immediate task of the Army. it was explained, will be to transport to the Pacific all of the men, equipment, planes, ammunition and food required for the war against Japan, which will require the use of most of the ships available for the supply of the European theatre.

A point system will be used for the Army demobilization, with first discharges going to those men, not required for further service, with highest credits for length of service in the Army, longest overseas, recipients

(Continued on page 3)

MPOE Rejects WB Wage Proposals

Counter proposals made by Warner Bros. in negotiations for a new contract with Motion Picture Office Employes Union, Local 23169 AFL affecting over 600 Warner home office 'white collar' workers, are being con-

(Continued on page 3)

Washington Warns New Crisis Is Facing Film Delivery Truckers

Washington, Sept. 6.—Film delivery trucking services may find themselves faced with a new and even greater emergency before the end of the year, it was indicated here today by Office of War Transportation Director J. M. Johnson, who warned that the shortage of heavy duty truck tires, which already has stalled thousands of trucks engaged in essential services, all over the country, is expected to extend to the smaller sized casings as a result of a cut from estimates in the allocation of replacement tires. Widespread curtailment of essential motor transportation services already has occurred, Johnson said.

"With the present level of allotments for the fourth quarter, these breakdowns will occur more frequently and will become progressively more serious as the average condition of tires on running wheels deteriorates, as all spares and fleet reserves are used up, and as the used-tire supply becomes further depleted," Johnson added.

Foresee UA as Permanent US Rank Outlet

Eagle-Lion in Post of Public Relations

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

Barrington C. Gain and Dr. Alexander Galperson, distribution representatives of J. Arthur Rank's British production companies, including Two Cities Films, indicated in an interview here yesterday that there is a strong possibility of United Artists becoming the permanent distributor of Rank's films in the Western Hemisphere.

This would discount the accepted assumption in U. S. trade circles that Rank's Eagle-Lion company in the United States, headed by Arthur Kelly, would take over physical dis-

(Continued on page 3)

Budget Boost for RKO British Films

RKO, in a move designed to overcome any future American audience resistance to British films, is now spending from two to four times as much money than previously on productions made at Denham, England, and hopes soon to show them in RKO theatres in the United States, Robert S. Wolff, the company's managing director for Great Britain, stated in an interview here yesterday.

Wolff, who took over the British post in mid-April after serving as New York branch manager for many years, arrived at the home office this week

(Continued on page 3)

Charles Schlaifer in New 20th-Fox Post

Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising manager for the past two years, has been appointed to the newly created post of assistant director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, it was announced here yesterday by Hal Horne, director of the department. Schlaifer will continue in charge of advertising in addition to his new duties.

Jules Fields, assistant exploitation manager, has been promoted to publicity manager, succeeding Jack Gold-

(Continued on page 3)

Meet Again on 6th War Loan Campaign

Leaders of the Sixth War Loan met this week at War Activities Committee headquarters here, on the call of national chairman Harry Brandt to discuss plans with members of the trade press and distributors divisions of the campaign and the East Coast division of the Public Information Committee.

Discussions centered around the contribution of each of the divisions in preceding campaigns. The kevnote of the meeting was that whatever had been done before would fall short of the requirements necessary to put the Sixth War Loan over, due to the rapidly growing conviction that the termination of the German war is "minutes away."

Ned E. Depinet, for the distributors, Chick Lewis, vice-chairman of the trade press division; Chester Bahn and Don Mersereau, acting for trade press chairman Jack Alicoate, and Hal Horne, PIC chairman, pledged "110 per cent" cooperation.

John Hertz, Jr., national publicity director for the campaign, presented several new promotional ideas for discussion.

Others attending were: Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to Depinet; Bill Dasheff, assistant national publicity director; Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, and Joe Kinsky.

Fan Magazines Map Plan for Campaign

Fan magazine editors, meeting at the call of Sixth War Loan publicity director John Hertz, Jr., have projected a plan to notch all magazine covers with a slug suggesting that readers "buy your Sixth War Loan bonds at your favorite movie theatre." The magazines are shooting for the covers of the December and January issues, on the stands early in November and December.

Hawkinson Feted on 25th Anniversary

Phil Reisman of RKO will honor Robert K. Hawkinson of the company's export department today at luncheon at Toots Shor's Restaurant, on the occasion of Hawkinson's 25th anniversary with the company and its predecessors.

Among RKO executives and affiliated producer representatives who will attend are N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, James A. Mulvey, William Levy, A. W. Schwalberg, and others.

PCCITO Board Meet Set for Sept. 20-21

Los Angeles, Sept. 6.—The Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners has set the quarterly meeting of the board of directors on Sept. 20-21 at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Seattle.

The agenda will include a discussion of the consent decree, territorial zoning and clearance, inflationary film rentals and theatre equipment.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

Tony Stearn, Warner theatre booking manager at Cleveland, entertained B. W. Steerman, contact manager of the Warner Pittsburgh office, and Mrs. Steerman last weekend.

•

Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors and Hal Horne of 20th Century-Fox will leave here at the end of next week to view new product on the Coast.

•

Nathan E. Goldstein, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, Springfield, was a New York visitor yesterday.

•

Berta Carlson, research director of *Movieland* and other Hillman magazines, has returned from a New Jersey vacation.

•

Milton Harris of the Miami Drive-In Theatres is a candidate for city commissioner in that city.

•

Thomas Gibbons of Paramount's home office legal department, is on vacation.

•

George L. Bagnall, United Artists vice-president, has arrived from the Coast.

•

Jack Barker, Famous Players-Canadian Theatres' art director, Toronto, has arrived in New York.

•

Edward J. Peskay has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

Stanley Hand, Altec staff representative, has left for the Coast.

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram vice-president in charge of distribution, is due back today from Boston.

•

E. V. Richards, president of the Paramount-Richards circuit, and N. L. Carter, general manager, have arrived here for conferences with Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations.

•

Mrs. Norman Rolfe, manager of the Webb Playhouse, Wethersfield, Conn., has left for Orlando, Fla., to join her husband, Cpl. Norman Rolfe, former Connecticut manager for the Lockwood and Gordon circuit.

•

Pat Notaro, former manager of Warners' Columbia, Sharon, Pa., now in Special Services at Camp Reynolds, Pa., is visiting in New York with Mrs. Notaro.

•

Larry Kent of 20th Century-Fox and Mrs. Kent will arrive here from the Coast on Monday instead of this week, as was anticipated.

•

Edward Morey, Monogram sales executive. is due to return from Boston at the weekend.

•

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc., will make a business trip to Washington today.

•

Arthur W. Kelly, president of Eagle-Lion Films, will celebrate his 54th birthday today.

•

Sam Lefkowitz, U. A. New York district manager, left yesterday for Philadelphia.

•

Constance Bennett is here for conferences with Gradwell L. Sears on her first U. A. release.

Rodgers, O'Shea to Chi. Sales Meeting

William F. Rodgers, vice president and general sales manager for M-G-M, and E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, Eastern sales manager, left last night for Chicago where Rodgers will preside at a three-day meeting of divisional heads at the Blackstone Hotel, starting today.

Also attending the sessions will be John Flynn, Western sales manager, and John J. Maloney, Central sales head. Rodgers will leave Chicago for the Coast Saturday, while O'Shea will return to New York and Maloney to Pittsburgh, their respective headquarters. Flynn's headquarters are in Chicago. Rodgers plans to remain on the Coast until Sept. 22.

Cahill Returns to WB

Lt. Col. Frank E. Cahill, Jr. of the Army Signal Corps Pictorial Service, has been placed on inactive duty and has resumed his position as director of sound for Warner Theatres.

Fortington, Former Para. Official, Dead

Toronto, Sept. 6.—H. A. Fortington, retired British capitalist and former member of the British Army Council at London, died recently at his estate at Renfrew, Ontario, from heart failure following an illness of four years. Fortington, 54, had been a director of the board and chairman of finance of Paramount Pictures, Inc., for several years prior to the war and previously was financial consultant of the British Government at Moscow. He had served as an official of the Ministry of Supply in the First Great War.

Survivors are his widow, the former Mary Crews of New York, a daughter, Hon. Nadia Kinnaird, and two brothers, one of whom is W. H. Fortington of the United Kingdom Inspection Board, New York.

Mono. to Fete Belita

Monogram will give a reception for Belita on Tuesday at the St. Regis Hotel here. The star is due in New York today and will remain here until next Wednesday.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 6

MARY PICKFORD will leave on the Superchief on Friday to attend a directors' meeting of U.A. in New York Sept. 12. It is expected that while in Manhattan she will try to close a deal for the film rights to "One Touch of Venus."

•

Mario Moreno, also known as Cantinflas in Mexico, has arrived here from Mexico for RKO conferences on his first production. At a reception given for him by the studio at the Ambassador Hotel here, stars of the studio as well as Latin-American consular representatives were present.

•

Due to Walter Compton's illness, John Harkins has taken over the United Artists Coast publicity department. Harkins is scheduled to remain in the department after Compton's recovery.

•

Brian Donlevy has returned after a personal appearance tour of Midwestern and Eastern cities in conjunction with the showing of "An American Romance."

•

Stanley Hand, Altec staff representative, arrived in Hollywood today for conferences with George L. Carrington, president of Altec Service.

•

Republic Pictures added "Earl Carroll's Vanities" to its schedule. Albert Cohen will produce it.

•

Fred Kohlmar will produce "The Night Before," recently acquired by Paramount.

•

Val Lewton will produce RKO's "Father Malacahy's Miracle."

Kreisler Is General Manager for Cowan

Bernard B. Kreisler, who resigned as Universal short subjects sales manager last June, has been named vice-president and general manager of Lester Cowan Productions, Inc., dividing his time between Hollywood and offices that are to be opened in New York. The association of Kreisler with Cowan was reported in Motion Picture Daily on June 9.

Hays Due for Board Meeting Wednesday

Will H. Hays, president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, is due in New York over the weekend from his annual Summer visit to Hollywood and will preside here next Wednesday at the third quarterly meeting of the MPPDA's board of directors.

London to Hollywood

Howard J. London, radio director for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has left for Hollywood to discuss plans for the 1945 'March of Dimes' campaign.

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Film Outlook For Postwar

(Continued from page 1)

as a result of lessened military demands.

The labor supply for theatre studios and exchanges will increase with the lifting of the present emphasis on war manufacturing and increased freedom of workers to select their jobs.

Opportunities for theatre construction and remodeling will open up, but there may be some restrictions on major construction until the lumber situation eases.

The War Production Board's new program to remove all possible shackles on civilian production immediately upon the defeat of Germany provides that the only preference ratings to be retained will be those for emergencies and military production, and the only restriction on manufacturers will be that war requirements be met before unrated civilian orders. The only allocation orders to be continued will cover materials that remain tight, such as lumber and certain chemicals.

No Material Change Seen

Analysis of the program today indicates that it will not materially change the picture for projector and theatre supplies production as previously seen. The output of booth equipment will depend upon the availability of electronic components and ball bearings, both essential in war production, while it had long been expected that supplies of carpet, seats and other theatre necessities would increase rapidly after the end of the war in Europe.

The WPB program is based upon estimates of a 40 per cent reduction in war production within three months after the defeat of Germany, which, it is estimated here, will free over 4,000,000 workers.

In addition to providing for needed increased supplies of equipment the relaxation of manufacturing controls and the expected demobilization of servicemen are seen as easing the labor situation in exchanges and theatres. The War Manpower Commission's program for supporting the WPB and Army postwar plans will be disclosed here in the next few days, it is expected.

Columbia Gets Space At Gainsborough

Columbia has secured studio space at Gainsborough Studios, Islington, London, for the production of its next British feature starring George Formby, it was learned here yesterday.

The film which will start shooting in November, will be credited toward Columbia's 1945-46 quota, it is understood.

Don Ameche Forms New Producing Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 6.—Formation of Command Pictures, a new producing unit organized by Don Ameche, was disclosed today. The plans are to produce one or two films a year with Ameche starring, with the first entitled "Love Like Ours," having Ralph Dietrich as producer. No distribution has been set.

Loew's Puts Up 3 Millions For Its New Pension Plan

(Continued from page 1)

final costs of the plan will be ascertainable.

A series of meetings of the committee is being held this week and will continue, to complete details of the plan and to put administrative machinery in operation. The retirement plan committee consists of Leake, as chairman; John T. Madden, Jesse T. Mills, Willard K. Craig, William R. Walsh, and Jay M. Eisenberg and Byron J. Ellerbrock, secretaries.

Approval of the plan by the stockholders was preceded by approval by the Treasury Department and, although selection of an underwriter has not been finalized, it is understood that the Equitable Life Assurance will be named.

The pension plan is described as being made possible at a minimum cost to the company under the present taxation situation, facilitated by an arrangement whereby Loew executives who have profit-sharing contracts have agreed to limit their own annual compensation to help defray the costs.

According to the plan, employes after retiring at the age of 65 (40 for women) will receive 15 per cent of their average annual earnings, plus 10 per cent of any portion over $3,000. Earnings above $200,000 a year will not be used in computing the annual average and the normal retirement income will have a top of $49,700 per annum. The retirement income will be payable for life with a minimum of 10 years' payments guaranteed to each employe, or his beneficiaries. Provisions are made for death and disability benefits and for termination of employment. Special benefits are provided for stars, officers and certain other Loew individuals. Maximum yearly benefits under the Loew plan will reach 25 per cent of annual earnings.

Allied Board Heads Arrive for Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

E. Harrold, president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana; Col. H. A. Cole, president of Texas Allied; Harry Lowenstein, president, and Thornton Kelly, executive secretary, of Jersey Allied; Maxwell Alderman, secretary of Connecticut Allied; Sidney Samuelson, business manager of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania; Meyer Leventhal of the MPTO of Maryland; Martin Smith, president of the ITO of Ohio and National Allied, and others.

Some 90 registrations are claimed for a gathering in which the full strength of independent exhibitors of New England is being mustered. Early arrivals included: Edward Lachman, Leo Jones, Lester Bendsleb, Charles Tobey, Nick Hysko, Nate Yamins, Hugh Bruen, Rae Branch, Ben Murphy, Martin Smith and P. J. Wood.

Charles Schlaifer in New 20th-Fox Post

(Continued from page 1)

stein, whose resignation, recently announced, will become effective Oct. 1. Sid Blumenstock, who has been in charge of special promotions and exhibitor service, will succeed Fields in exploitation, under Rodney Bush.

Horne stated that the realignment is in line with a plan to extend the "Wilson" type of promotional campaign to "Keys of the Kingdom", "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn", "Winged Victory" and other forthcoming productions.

To Release Some of Industry's 38,000

(Continued from page 1)

of awards, participation in battles and with dependent children. No figure was given as to the number of Army men who may be released, but it was variously estimated as anywhere up to 3,000,000.

MPOE Rejects WB Wage Proposals

(Continued from page 1)

sidered by the MPOE and it is understood that the membership, following a special meeting at the Hotel Capitol here Tuesday night, prefers to forego its demands for a closed shop if more advantageous wage provisions can be obtained.

Warner Executives' Offer

Warner executives offered two six per cent length-of-service wage increases on a three-year contract to expire Aug. 9, 1947, pointing out that the union had already been granted a similar six per cent increase as of Aug. 9, 1944, the expiration date of the original contract, while the MPOE is holding out for two eight per cent length-of-service increases payable under a two-year contract which would expire Aug. 9, 1946. Under both plans, employes would receive an additional five per cent wage increase when they complete their first 10 years of service.

Other provisions of the new contract, upon which there seems to be agreement, provide for the setting up of 12 new job classifications to bring the total classifications to 49; a minimum 10 per cent wage increase where promotions are made and upgrading of the worker to the new classification would not bring such an increase; and the setting up of overtime pay on a daily basis rather than on weekly. Vacations would be 10 working days, giving workers an additional day when a holiday falls within their vacation period.

Russell Moss, MPOE business manager, expects to resume contract negotiations with Warner officials today.

Getschal Leaves Warners

Budd Getschal, formerly with the Warner advertising staff here under Mort Blumenstock, has been named copy chief of Blaine-Thompson, Inc., advertising agency, effective immediately.

Foresee UA as Permanent US Rank Outlet

(Continued from page 1)

tribution of Rank's films here in the immediate post-war period.

Gain and Dr. Galperson will set American distribution for three more films while they are here on a visit from London, in addition to the seven features set with United Artists this week and the one film set with 20th Century-Fox. They indicated that there is a good possibility that UA will also release these films.

Exploitation Setup

A publicity and exploitation department will be set up here, under Eagle-Lion, to handle promotions of all Rank films being distributed in the U. S., Gain and Dr. Galperson said, pointing out that this department will become a permanent feature of Rank's operations in the U. S.

Further details of the Rank-UA distribution deal approved by the UA board of directors here Tuesday will be worked out by Gain and Dr. Galperson with UA executives. It is understood that UA will receive a percentage fee for distributing the films, the amount varying according to the gross of each film, which in itself is unusual. Rank will receive no minimum guarantee of rentals. Eagle-Lion will have the power of approval of contracts made by UA, it is understood.

Gain and Dr. Galperson discounted reports in the trade that Rank contemplates buying into UA.

Budget Boost for RKO British Films

(Continued from page 1)

to discuss 1944-45 RKO American product to be exhibited in England. He expects to arrange showing there of practically all of the 50 pictures on the company's new season's schedule. He will go to Hollywood next week for further conferences and will return to London in five or six weeks.

At present, Wolff said, two films, untitled, are set for RKO production in England during the coming year, but the number may be increased. The two made there this year, "Hotel Reserve", which is finished, and "Great Day", now in production will both be released in the U. S.

Theatre business throughout the British provinces is sensational at present, Wolff reported, and in London it is very good, although it dropped to 35 per cent of normal in the capital during the early days of the Nazi robot bombing. "Outstanding films are playing to grosses higher than in the period before the 'doodle bugs' came," Wolff added.

Wolff believes that all studios now commandeered by the British government will be made available for private production again soon after the close of hostilities. The Elstree studio has already been given back, although it is not yet known which company will make use of it. RKO, he added, needs no additional studio facilities.



CARY GRANT

in

Frank Capra's

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

with

RAYMOND MASSEY ★ JACK CARSON ★ PETER LORRE

PRISCILLA LANE • EDW. EVERETT HORTON • JAMES GLEASON

JOSEPHINE HULL • JEAN ADAIR • JOHN ALEXANDER

Directed by FRANK CAPRA

Screen Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein • From the Stage Play by JOSEPH KESSELRING

Produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse • Music by Max Steiner

Broadway

STRAND

TWO WARNER OPEN

TWO WARNER REC

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Jack L. War



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ALEXIS SMITH
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THE DOUGH GIRLS

With

JOHN RIDGELY · JOHN ALEXANDER · CRAIG STEVENS
BARBARA BROWN · ALAN MOWBRAY

Directed by JAMES V. KERN

Screen Play by James V. Kern and Sam Hellman · Additional Dialogue by Wilkie Mahoney
From the Stage Play by Joseph A. Fields · Produced by Max Gordon

Produced by MARK HELLINGER

Broadway
HOLLYWOOD

NGS IN NEW YORK !

RDS IN NEW YORK !

Soon You too!

utive Producer

Reviews

"Dark Mountain"

(*Paramount*)

AROUND the rugged life in the U. S. Forestry Service, Pine and Thomas have built a modest production full of suspense but failing to live up to the promise of robust action contained in an opening mountain fire.

Ranger Robert Lowery goes on leave after the blaze and finds his childhood sweetheart, Ellen Drew, married to Regis Toomey and sporting a mink coat. Miss Drew's husband turns out to be a racketeer who murders a cop under circumstances that make his wife an accessory. She flees to the isolated Ranger post of her first love, who settles her in a cabin and goes off to blast stumps in the forests, pleased to have her around but a little worried. While he is away, Toomey arrives on the scene and hides out in the back room of the cabin, using a pistol to keep his presence a secret from Lowery. When the ranger finally becomes aware of his presence, the killer bolts in a handy Government station wagon loaded with dynamite. Lowery and his assistant, Eddie Quillan, give chase but can only watch as a fallen tree furnishes the explosive denouement.

All performances, especially Toomey's, are quite capable, and William Berke's direction nicely points up the feeling of menace sought by the Maxwell Shane screenplay. As comic relief, Quillan sadly knits a sweater for his bride, a Wac, who, to judge from her photo, will wear it to advantage, in Australia.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 1 for 1944-45.

TOM LOY

"Call of the Jungle"

(*Monogram*)

THE elements of suspense and dramatic action, plus good dialogue, written into a fantastic but interesting South Seas tale make *Monogram's* "Call of the Jungle" a promising piece. Production rolls along rapidly. Audience interest should run right from the start.

James Bush, government officer on the island, is attempting to apprehend thieves who stole the tribal "black" pearls. Racing against time and the natives, who seek revenge at any cost, Bush, with Ann Corio, exotic white princess, discover the guilty one, Muni Seroff, an innocent appearing bar proprietor, through a ruse concocted with the cooperation of the tribal chief, Henry Burns. Excitement runs high throughout; moments of acute suspense are frequent and well executed.

Supporting cast includes John Davidson, Claudia Dell, Edward Chandler and Alex Havier, all of whom turn in capable performances. Phil Rosen directed, assisted by Bobby Ray, from George Callahan's original. Philip N. Krasne and James S. Burkett produced.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G."* Release date, Aug. 19.

HELEN MCNAMARA

"Soul of a Monster"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Sept. 6

AN unusual screenplay by Edward Dein, effective direction by Will Jason, and fine photography by Burnett Guffey combine to lift this picture above the level of secondary melodramatic attractions.

In the opening sequence, a doctor lies dying and his wife prays to any power, good or evil, to save him. Whereupon a woman—unidentified, but by her actions presumably a representative of the powers of evil—enters the sickroom and nurses the doctor back to health. He becomes so infatuated with her that she is able to exercise an almost hypnotic influence over him. From a kindly conscientious physician he changes into a cruel, cold-blooded killer. The story ends with a flashback to the original scene, but the doctor overhears his wife's prayers and begs her to desist. She does so; the evil woman is struck by an automobile before she can enter the house, and the doctor dies in peace.

The cast is a small one, composed of Rose Hobart, George Macready, Jim Bannon, Jeanne Bates, Erik Rolf and Ernest Hilliard, all of whom give satisfactory performances. Ted Richmond produced.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."*

THALIA BELL

**"G" denotes general classification.*



OF THE MAGAZINE THAT SELLS UP TO 36% FASTER*

THAN ANY OTHER MAGAZINE IN THE FIELD

The motion picture industry, regardless of war's many restrictions, has not lowered its standards of quality. Reflecting the people and product of that industry, Photoplay will not, for temporary circulation advantage, sacrifice the high quality and quantity of its editorial content.

And today Photoplay keeps on giving its readers more text and more color (and, we believe, more good ideas—see reverse side of next page) than does any other magazine in the field.

*Established by a recent survey involving 4 consecutive issues covering sales of more than 20,000 newsstands.

PHOTOPLAY

FAVORITE OF AMERICA'S *FIRST MILLION* MOVIE-GOERS

PHOTOPLAY

15¢

October

ADVANCE COPY

LANA TURNER
BY PAUL HESSE



THE HEARTBREAK STORY OF CARY GRANT AND BARBARA HUTTON'S SON

See Over—for preview of Photoplay's 37 October features.



RUTH WATERBURY, reporting exclusively, treads where angels etc.



CARY GRANT AND BARBARA HUTTON'S separation... magazine scoop of the year!



ADELA ROGERS ST. JOHNS' bouquet to "WILSON"—tribute to one of the greats of all time.

PHOTOPLAY

FAVORITE OF AMERICA'S FIRST MILLION MOVIE-GOERS

Will present

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INGRID BERGMAN—a Photoplay *first* by Louella Parsons.



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ANNE BAXTER—star in the great tradition of the past—illumined by Elliot ("Paris") Paul.

Fred R. Sammis, Editorial Director
Elaine Osterman, Western Manager
Marian H. Quinn, Associate Editor
Edmund Davenport, Art Director
Helen Gilmore, Editor
Adele Whiteley Fletcher, Associate Editor
Sara Hamilton, Associate Editor
Ruth Waterbury, Contributing Editor
Hymie Fink, Staff Photographer

Cover: Lana Turner, Natural Color Photograph by Paul Hesse
Costume designed by Irene, Executive Designer of M-G-M Studios



AN ELSA MAXWELL PARTY with pix and stellar anecdotes of the doings at Evalyn Walsh MacLean's home all for Photoplay's editorial director, Fred Sammis.



CANDIDS from Hymie Fink's psycho-analytical camera.



LANA TURNER AND PAUL HESSE contrive a fashion-note cover that would charm a Parisian couturiere.

Labor Day's Grosses High In Chi's Loop

CHICAGO, Sept. 6.—One of the best Labor Day weekends on record helped Loop houses to one of the biggest weeks this year. The week also marked the opening of the Downtown Theatre (formerly the Rialto), giving the Loop three combination-policy houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 7:

"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,400).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-65c-95c). Stage: Charlie Spivak and orchestra. Gross: $67,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
DOWNTOWN—(1,600) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c) 2nd Loop run. Stage: Johnny (Scat) Davis and orchestra. Gross: $15,500.
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"Attack" (OWI-RKO) 6 days, 3rd week
"In Society" (Univ.) 3rd Loop week, 1 day
"Seven Doors to Death" (PRC) 1 day
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Frankie Carle and orchestra. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.) 8 days, 2nd week
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO) 1 day
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up in Arms" (RKO)
WOODS—(1,200) (35c-65c-95c) 19th week. Gross: $19,400. (Average: $10,000).

Mrs. Spitz, Weitman Will Aid 'Stars'

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Nathan Straus, Grover Whalen and Dr. Stephen Wise are honorary chairmen of a committee of civic and theatrical leaders who will sponsor the 11th annual "Night of Stars," featuring top personalities of the amusement world in a pageant for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine, to be staged at Madison Square Garden, Tuesday evening, Nov. 14. Sylvan Gotshal is chairman.

Heading the women's division will be Mrs. Leo Spitz, chairman, and Mrs. Louis Grossman, executive chairman. Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, is again chairman of the producing committee, with Ed Sullivan and Louis K. Sidney co-chairmen.

RKO Preferred Dividend

The board of directors of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, at a meeting here yesterday, declared a dividend of $1.50 per share on the six per cent preferred stock, payable Nov. 1 to holders of record on Oct. 20. The dividend constitutes the regular dividend for the current quarter which will end Oct. 31.

'Wilson' Opening in Washington Tonight

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6—Approximately 1,500 guests of 20th Century-Fox, including Government officials and foreign diplomats, will join producer Darryl F. Zanuck and other company executives at the Washington premiere of "Wilson" at Loew's Capitol Theatre tonight. Alexander and Geraldine Fitzgerald, stars of the film, will be present, as will Lamar Trotti, author of the screenplay. Spyros Skouras will head a home office delegation including Tom J. Connors, William J. Kupper, Hal Horne, Andrew W. Smith, Jack Schlaifer, Bob Montgomery and Sam Shain.

Notables to Attend

The Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Memorial Foundation of Staunton, Va., recipients of a recent $50,000 gift from 20th-Fox, will be represented by Mrs. Cordell Hull. Secretary Hull has also accepted an invitation, as have Sam Rayburn, speaker of the House; Supreme Court Justices Frank Murphy and Robert H. Jackson, Attorney General Francis Biddle; Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture; Jesse H. Jones, Secretary of Commerce; Ted R. Gamble, Director of War Finance; Admiral Ernest J. King, commander of the U. S. Fleet; Major General L. B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service; Vice Admiral R. R. Waesche, Commander of the Coast Guard; the Earl of Halifax, Ambassador from Great Britain; Francis B. Sayre, the late President Wilson's son-in-law, and Joseph P. Tumulty, Wilson's secretary.

Among prominent exhibitors attending from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia will be Frank Boucher, Frank LaFalce, Sidney Lust, Harry Brown, Ben Caplan, Ed Fountaine, Sam Galanty, George Gill, Arthur Jackobson, Fred Klein, Gus Lynch, Hardy Meakin, John O'Leary, John Payette, Wade Pearson, Louis Rebnitzki, Roland Robbins, Nathan C. Rosen, Ivan Rosenbaum, Daniel Weinberg, Benjamin F. Young, Fred Wood and Joseph Bernheimer.

Would Ban Film in Oklahoma Theatres

OKLAHOMA CITY, Sept. 6.—An attempt to get the new Paulette Goddard-Sonny Tufts feature, "I Love a Soldier," banned from Oklahoma theatres was started today by State Health Director H. Grady Mathews, who said the picture glamorizes "street pickups" and would help spread venereal diseases.

Mathews publicly criticized the picture but added that he plans no further action. He pleaded with church and civic groups to take action against the showing.

Matthews' action was immediately attacked by Jack Swiger, publicity man for Standard Theaters, whose Criterion is now showing the film.

'Parkington' Trade Shows

M-G-M's "Mrs. Parkington" will be trade shown in New York on Sept. 18 at the exchange and in Los Angeles at the Ambassador Hotel. In all other cities the film will be screened Sept. 25. "Naughty Marietta," a reissue, will be screened Sept. 28 in all keys.

Goldberg, Simmons In US-Canada Unit

Dual companies have been started in New York and Toronto for the building of studios for feature production in Canada and for distribution in both countries.

Hollywood Pictures Corp., headed by Jack Goldberg, with Ira Simmons as Coast representative, will handle releases in the U. S, while the Canadian company, organized as Trans-Canada Pictures, Ltd., will produce and distribute in Canada. James Cowan, director of Editorial Services, Ltd., Canada, is in charge of Trans-Canada. A deal is pending for Rank to handle the product in England, according to Hollywood's offices here.

The first production, to be started next month, will be "Sick River Heart," written by the late Lord Tweedsdale. Plans for the studios involves the use of several buildings at the Toronto Exposition Grounds that have been closed for the duration.

Rhode Island House Asks Clearance Cut

Artcraft, Inc., operator of the Greenwich Theatre, East Greenwich, R. I., has filed a clearance complaint against RKO and Warners in the Boston tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The Greenwich, which is first-run in East Greenwich, is subject to a 14-day clearance after first-run Providence theatres. It charges that this clearance is unreasonable and asks that it be reduced to one day. The Majestic and Albee theatres, Providence, have been named as interested parties.

Short Subject Review

"The War Speeds Up"

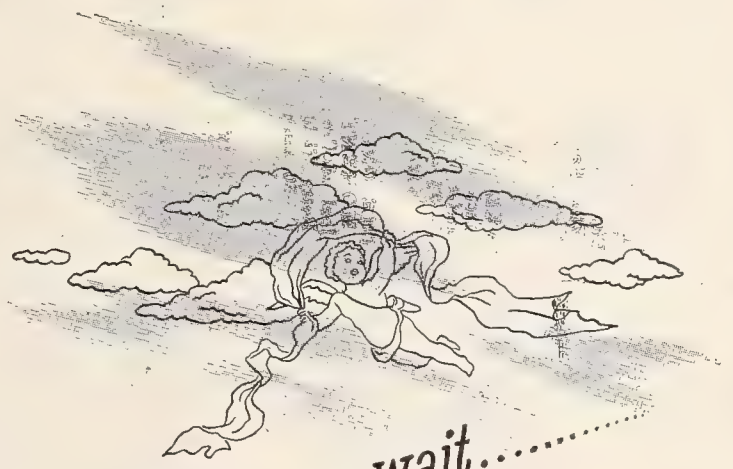
(WAC-Columbia)

"The War Speeds Up" is the unmitigated evidence needed now to shock the American people into realizing that the war is not yet won. The war is speeding up, says the unnamed Army commentator, and as the war speeds up so must production, he continues, warning that tremendous quantities of shells, tanks, trucks, guns and all other materials of war are needed now. The film presents war-manufacturing quotas which must be met now, and backs them up with pictures of what is happening on the battle fronts of the world: Apalling scenes of stark horror, of American dead and wounded. There are scenes seldom screened in U. S. theatres. They should startle any apathetic populace which may have slowed down in factories on the assumption that "the job is done."

The Army Pictorial Service has done a splendid job on this film. The accompanying commentary, presenting the cold facts, carries a vital message. This release demands playing time. The Office of War Information is releasing through the War Activities Committee. Prints are available through Columbia. Running time, 18 mins.

Gov't Delays Bioff Case

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 6.—The Government's case against William H. Bioff, convicted extortioner, for tax evasion of $80,000, and scheduled for hearing in the Federal court yesterday, wast postponed one week.



Heaven can wait.....

But your audience won't—when a breakdown in your sound or projection equipment occurs ☆ Perhaps, that's why Altec Service engineers look like angels to showmen when trouble hits ☆ These men of ours wing their way into your house and presto... things are heavenly ☆ The only hymn we harp on is Service.

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THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Coming Events

Through Today—National Allied directors' meeting, Bretton Woods, N. H.

Sept. 8—National Screen Service sales meeting, New York.

Sept. 12—Meeting of industry officials for Sixth War Loan at War Activities Committee headquarters, New York.

Sept. 13—MPPDA board of directors' meeting, New York.

Sept. 15—Exhibition representatives of New York State to meet with labor department officials on building code, New York.

Sept. 15-17—National Screen Service sales meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Sept. 20-21—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners' board of directors quarterly meeting, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Seattle.

Sept. 21—National Screen Service sales meeting, Los Angeles.

Oct. 16-18—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' semi-annual conference, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 17—West Virginia Managers' Association convention, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Va.

Nov. 14—United Jewish Appeal "Night of Stars," Madison Square Garden, New York.

'SYWA', $589,000, 'GWTW', $532,000

Gross of $589,000 in seven weeks is reported for David Selznick's "Since You Went Away" at the Capitol Theatre, here, $57,000 more than the $532,000 grossed in the same period and same theatre by Selznick's "Gone With the Wind." "Since You Went Away" finished a seventh week at the Capitol Wednesday night with a gross of more than $83,000 to surpass the sixth week's gross by more than $3,000, giving the theatre its best gross since the third week of the run.

Week-by-week comparisons between "Since You Went Away" and "Gone With the Wind" follow: first week "SYWA," $90,000, "GWTW," $65,000; second, $88,000 against $80,000; third, $85,000 against $80,000; fourth, $81,000 and $80,000; fifth, $82,000 and $80,000; sixth, $80,000 and $75,000; seventh, $83,000 and $72,000; giving "SYWA" the edge over "GWTW" in each of the seven weeks thus far. "SYWA" started its eighth week at the Capitol yesterday with no end of the run in sight; "GWTW" ran 11½ weeks at the Capitol.

Sheridan to Meet Press

Ann Sheridan, who returned Wednesday from a 35,000-mile USO tour of the China-Burma-India circuit, will meet the press this morning at USO New York headquarters. Others in her troupe who will be on hand are Jackie Miles, Mary Landa and Ruth Denas.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH H. HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Prod., will leave for the Coast tonight for a 10-day visit.

•

CHARLES SAMSON AARONSON of the editorial staff of *Motion Picture Herald* and MRS. AARONSON are the parents of a second daughter, born yesterday morning at Beth Israel Hospital, here.

•

PVT. FRANK LOWENSTEIN, son of HARRY LOWENSTEIN, New Jersey Allied president, is convalescing in England from injuries sustained in Normandy.

•

VAUGHN O'NEILL, manager of Loew's State Theatre, Syracuse, is a victim of infantile paralysis and is in City Hospital, Syracuse. HAROLD MORTIN is acting manager.

•

PEGGY RYAN, Universal star, will arrive in New York on Tuesday, en route to the New England premiere of "The Merry Monahans" at the RKO Albee Theatre, Providence.

•

LARRY KENT, assistant manager of Loew's Palace, Hartford, Conn., is in New York on vacation.

•

HARRY F. SHAW, Loew's Poli division manager for New England, was a recent Hartford visitor.

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, vice-president of Loew's, celebrated his birthday yesterday by entertaining visiting Loew district managers WILLIAM FINNEY and CHARLES KURTZMAN, and JOHNNIE MURPHY, BEN JOEL and HAROLD GOLDGRABEN of his staff at lunch.

•

CELESTE FOX, secretary to SAMUEL COHEN, United Artists' foreign publicity director, will return today after a leave of absence in Seattle.

•

ARTHUR DARLEY, manager of the Arcade Theatre, Springfield, Mass., has returned after a week's vacation in Rhode Island.

•

CECIL VOGEL, manager of Loew's Palace, Memphis, is convalescing from a recent illness at his father's home in Owensboro, Ky.

•

RAFAEL RAMOS COBIAN, Puerto Rican circuit owner, has left New York for Cuba.

•

LOU BARASH of Paramount's press-book department has returned from vacation.

•

JOHN A. ALTERMANN, manager of the Dallace Telenews, has left for Denver.

SAG Calls on AFL In Dispute with SPU

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—The Los Angeles Central Labor Council of the American Federation of Labor stepped into the conflict today between the Screen Actors Guild and the Screen Players Union, which seeks recognition as bargaining agency for extras, by addressing a communication to all AFL locals, urging them to "resist SPU propaganda in every possible way." Simultaneously the SAG filed with the National Labor Relations Board a 92-page brief, signed by its president, James Cagney, setting forth the reasons why the SAG contends SPU's petition for recognition should not be given.

Hertz and PIC Plan 6th Loan Publicity

John Hertz, Jr., director of publicity for the Sixth War Loan, Nov. 11-Dec. 7, met here yesterday with the industry's Public Information Committee to plan advertising and publicity details of the campaign. Assignments were given to advertising representatives of the various companies, and Hertz, following the session, disclosed that "100 per cent enthusiastic support" was promised.

Si Seadler of M-G-M presided at the meeting in the absence of chairman Hal Horne, who was attending the "Wilson" premiere in Washington.

New Sherman Deal Before UA Board

On the agenda of next Tuesday's meeting here of United Artists' board of directors will be a new distribution deal for six more "Hopalong Cassidy" productions from Harry Sherman, plus two high-budget pictures. One of the latter may be based on the life of Tom Mix.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on Sept. 5 that Sherman would continue to produce the "Hopalongs" next season, but with an undesignated player replacing William Boyd who has appeared in the series for years, and that UA will continue to distribute.

WB Buys Site for Coast Video Station

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., disclosed here yesterday that his company has purchased property on Mulholland Drive in Hollywood upon which a television station will be erected as soon as conditions permit in the post-war period. Warners has already filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission for permission to operate a video television station.

'Toscannini' in Rome

"Arturo Toscannini," an Office of War Information overseas film bureau documentary, will be given a triple premiere in three of the leading theatres in Rome this week, it was learned here yesterday.

No Discrimination in Loew's Pension Plan

In reporting an initial payment of $3,000,000 by Loew's, Inc., to the trustees of the company's employes' retirement plan *Motion Picture Daily* yesterday stated that "Special benefits are provided (in the plan) for stars, officers and certain other Loew's individuals." This statement is incorrect.

David Bernstein, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, said that not only are there no "special benefits" in the plan for those personnel classifications, or any others, but that some in the groups mentioned make sacrifices in order to participate in the plan. "There is no discrimination in the plan and, under the laws, there can be none," he said.

Bernstein also pointed out that the retirement age of women employes under the plan is 60 and not 40, as reported.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
KATHARINE HEPBURN
WALTER HUSTON - ALINE MacMAHON
AKIM TAMIROFF - TURHAN BEY
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Bonita Granville Kent Smith
Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon
'YOUTH RUNS WILD'

STATE
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's New Musical
'MEET THE PEOPLE'
LUCILLE BALL
DICK POWELL
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
& HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
TOMMY DIX

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

DARRYL F. ZANUCK's
"WILSON"
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by Henry King
Written for the Screen by Lamar Trotti
A 20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

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Meet to Set 6th War Loan Chairmen

A canvass of exhibitors is now in swing to select those who will be asked to serve as state exhibitor chairmen for the forthcoming Sixth War Loan.

At a meeting yesterday at War Activities Committee headquarters here, Harry Brandt, Sixth War Loan head; S. H. Fabian, theatres division chairman, and Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, began to examine the exhibitor roster to make appointments.

A tentative agenda was also outlined for the 'grand strategy' conferences set for the Hotel Astor here on Sept. 12.

Stern Calls Second Managers' Meeting

Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, will hold a two-day meeting of eight M-G-M office managers at the Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City, Sept. 24-25. This is the second of a series planned by Stern, the first having been held in Boston several weeks ago. William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, will attend the Kansas City sessions, making the stopover on his way back from the Coast.

At the same time, William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation for M-G-M, will hold a Kansas City district meeting with a number of field exploiteers, who will also sit in on one of the office managers' meetings.

Office managers to attend include Mrs. Amy Sinclair, Kansas City; Harry Simons, Chicago; Walter Bennin, Milwaukee; Fred Arnington, Des Moines; Jay H. Zimmerman, St. Louis; Mrs. Elizabeth Mitchell, Memphis; Eleanor King, Denver; and Lila Goodin, San Francisco.

Dalton to Succeed Healy in OWI Post

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Neil Dalton, assistant to the president of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* and *Times*, who has been assistant chief of the news bureau since last April 1, will succeed George W. Healy, Jr., as director of the domestic branch of the Office of War Information, in November, it was announced here today by Director Elmer Davis.

Healy is planning to leave the OWI in November to return to the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* after nearly a year in Washington.

Mass for Pvt. Harris

Requiem Mass for Pvt. Douglas F. Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice (Bucky) Harris of RKO Radio and nephew of John J. O'Connor, vice president of Universal Pictures, will be said at Holy Name Roman Catholic Church, New Rochelle, tomorrow morning. Private Harris died of wounds received in France. Friends in and out of the industry are invited to attend the Mass.

International Film Pact In Advance of Peace

(*Continued from page* 1)

States and England, and possibly other Allied governments, from which will evolve the basic foundation for the treatment of American motion pictures abroad.

It is quite probable that the film and other commercial arrangements which will be developed through international meetings of this type will follow the pattern of the Anglo-American petroleum agreement recently signed, which eventually is to be expanded into a multilateral pact to which all nations may adhere.

The oil agreement in itself merely laid down broad principles based on the Atlantic Charter, committing the United States and the United Kingdom to the policy of free access to needed materials by all consuming countries, an adequate supply at fair prices, and the prevention of unrestrained 'cutthroat' competition, and setting up a joint commission to deal with specific problems as they arise.

Application of Treaty

Any motion picture treaty devised is expected to lay down similar principles, so stated as to be more definitely applicable to films, including free access to all markets and fair treatment therein, with censorship limited to moral content and tariffs and taxes equitably applied. Moral censorship, it has been suggested, could be applied to political as well as personal morals, thus preventing any future would-be Hitler from flooding other countries than his own with mind-poisoning propaganda.

It is not the intention of the Allied governments to clutter up the peace conference with a number of commercial, financial and economic discussions but, rather, to work out all such problems by a series of international meetings, such as already have been held with respect to oil, rubber, monetary and other matters.

How soon after the pacification of Europe the peace conference will meet has not been determined. The last war ended in 1918, the peace conference met in 1919, but it was not until 1921 that Congress passed and President Harding signed a peace treaty with Germany.

Conduct of Affairs

The last war ended in an armistice, this war, it has been promised, will end in unconditional surrender, and the Allied nations will not go to the peace conference to work out terms with the defeated enemy but with a well-worked-out program for the future conduct of European affairs and nations which Germany will be informed it is to accept. Under such conditions, it is not likely that the Allies will deem it necessary to include in the conference any detailed discussion of individual industries, since they will be covered by the United Nations' agreements to which associated nations, neutrals and eventually the enemy governments will be invited to adhere.

While motion pictures have not yet been the subject of formal discussions between the Washington and London governments, the necessary information on which to base such talks is being compiled, and it is not believed that the development of an agreement would prove a difficult or lengthy task. State Department officials are represented as confident that the basis for postwar international film trade will be worked out well in advance of the peace conference, and that agreement is expected to be laid on the table as the pattern which the Allied nations, voluntarily, and Germany perforce, will follow.

Represent SOPEG at UOPWA Phila. Meet

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—Delegates of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, New York Local 109, attending the fifth annual convention of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel here include: Herman Liveright, Paramount; Sam Shapiro, 20th Century-Fox, Gloria Schwartz, Columbia, Bea Lustig and Alice Goodman, Loew's; Otto Langer, Loew's New York exchange: and Sidney Young and Ellen Davidson, SOPEG president and organizer, respectively.

New Year's Date at M. H. for Col. Film

Columbia's color production, "A Song to Remember," with Merle Oberon, Paul Muni and Cornell Wilde, has been set for a New Year's Eve opening engagement at Radio City Music Hall. Special publicity and exploitation on the production will be handled by David E. Weshner. Columbia was host at a cocktail party at the Hotel Pierre here this week for Wilde, who portrays Chopin in the picture, his first important role in a major production.

7 More Exchange Pacts Are Signed

(*Continued from page* 1)

York exchanges of M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia and United Artists where the workers are represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local 109,CIO.

The job classification plan sets up 18 job classes, with minimum and maximum scales, and provides for a minimum 10 per cent wage increase. Benefits are retroactive to Dec. 1, 1943.

Representatives of the companies have also approved the filing of an application with the WLB having jurisdiction over the Cleveland area for a 10 per cent wage increase for service employes in Cleveland exchanges. The Cleveland IATSE local is one of 15 service employe locals seeking the increase which has already been approved by the WLB for Seattle exchange workers.

Loew's Dividend Declared

Directors of Loew's have declared a dividend of 50 cents per share on the company's common stock, payable Sept. 30 to stockholders of record on Sept. 19.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 7

WITH his Paramount "Frenchman's Creek" booked into the New York Rivoli for a run starting Sept. 20th, producer David Lewis is set until next Summer. He has three features scheduled for International Films. At present he is shooting the Sonja Henie picture. "It's a Pleasure," which will be followed by "Home Is a Sailor" and "Tomorrow Is Forever," starring Claudette Colbert.

•

Republic added two pictures to its scedule. "Iron Master," which will star Michael O'Shea, with Albert Cohen, associate producer, and "Jealousy," a psychological melodrama by Dalton Trumbo, will be produced and directed by Gustave Machaty.

•

PRC signed Al Herman as unit manager and producer-director, assigning him six productions. Herman will not relinquish his interest in his own production firm, American Productions, Inc., however.

•

RKO bought "Marry at Leisure," a novel; "Never Say Die," an original, and "Sex Is Out," a play.

•

RKO signed Clifford Odets as writer-director to a long term contract.

•

Industry Meets U.S. On Raw Stock Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

same informal manner as has the consideration of the situation or be covered by a formal WPB order setting official quotas with which they will be required to comply.

It already has been determined that the companies will have to absorb some 40,000,000 to 45,000,000 feet of their over-consumption during the first half of the year, which will limit them to about 315,000,000 feet for the quarter, as against quotas of 324,000,000 feet, and a use-rate running in the neighborhood of 350,000,000 feet.

Since only three weeks of the quarter remain, the difficulties of the companies will be shortlived, as they will again return, with one or two minor adjustments, to their regular quotas on Oct. 1. However, it is expected that the supply situation will continue tight for some time beyond that date, and the companies, for a period at any rate, will have to work close to their allocations.

'Master Race' Opens In Texas Oct. 17

RKO will launch Edward A. Golden's "The Master Race" throughout the country with a series of special exploitation premeires, the first tentatively set for the Texas area Oct. 17, it has been learned here from S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio's director of advertising-publicity. The second opening probably will be in New England.

The campaign will be patterned after the one previously used for Golden's "Hitler's Children."

SENSATIONAL NEW

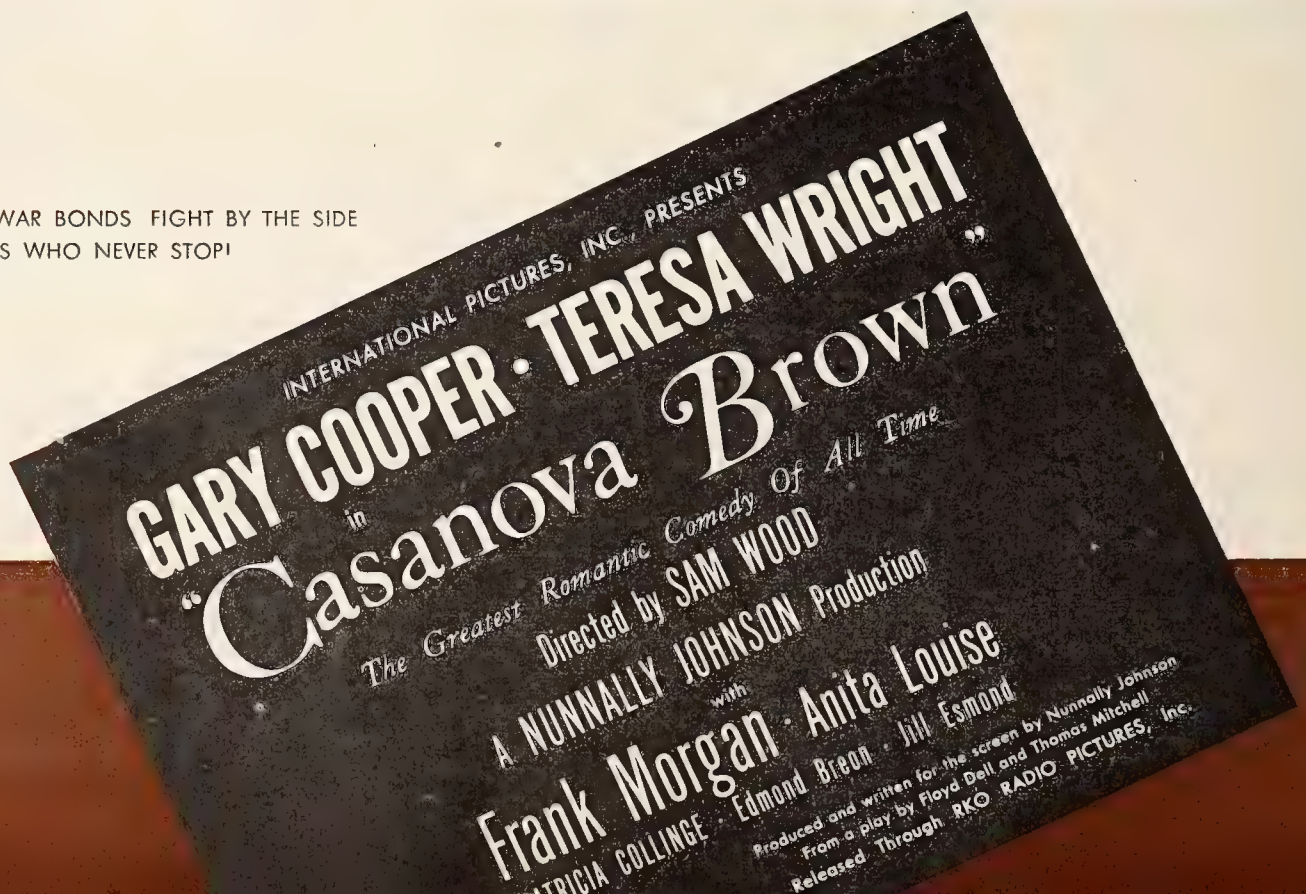
now bein

"Casanov

24 Smash Openings—

BUFFALO	20th Century Theatre	New house record.
COLORADO SPRINGS	Chief	New all-time record!
SALT LAKE	Uptown	Biggest week on the books!
CINCINNATI	Albee	Top for all time!
COLUMBUS	Palace	Nothing else ever touched it!
DENVER	Orpheum	The biggest of the big!
LOS ANGELES	Pantages	Hits new high! (Hillstreet does same, with one exception!)
NEW ORLEANS	Orpheum	Highest gross for house!

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FIGHT BY THE SIDE
OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!



...X-OFF...RY

...ritten by

...a B...

... New H... s!

OMAHA		
WASHINGTON		
ASBURY PARK		...t.
BOISE		
BALTIMORE		
RICHMOND		
CEDAR RAPIDS		
DAVENPORT		
DAYTON		
DES MOINES		
KANSAS CITY		...ion.
PROVIDENCE		
ROCHESTER		
SAN FRANCISCO	Golden Gate	Second week biggest in history.
SIOUX CITY	Orpheum	Biggest ever with one exception.
SYRACUSE	Keith	Near the top.

GOOD ENTERTAINMENT IS *INTERNATIONAL!*

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES, INC.

British KRS Members Ask 25% Quota

(Continued from page 1)

27½ per cent, as prescribed by the 1938 act, unless a new order is approved by both houses of Parliament before Jan. 1.

At the instance of Sam Eckman, Jr., managing director of M-G-M, Ltd., and a former KRS president, the Americans will hold a separate meeting when their absent colleagues, notably Joseph Friedman, Columbia European supervisor, and Francis L. Harley, 20th Century-Fox London manager, return to England from New York. It is expected that separate representations will be made at that time.

Both British and American representatives are agreed that there is no necessity for an increase in the labor cost-test figure of one pound (about four dollars) per foot of feature film, which was set up by the 1938 act as a quality test which a picture would have to meet before ranking for quota. The BOT had suggested that, in view of increased wartime labor costs, an upward revision might be desirable.

Test Figure for Shorts

Also, it was unanimously decided that the establishment of test figures for short subjects is undesirable, the view being that England was never a good market for shorts and that test figures would inevitably reduce their supply. A further reason given was that the best quality British shorts have been those made economically and that the imaginative documentary producers might find their market killed by any new arrangement.

Deferred for future KRS consideration was the proposal to include in a film's production costs for quota purposes the problematic payments due actors and technicians working on profit-sharing terms. This has long been a bone of contention. It is understood privately from BOT sources that the government, in any event, would not yield to a demand that an arbitrary estimate of such amounts be included in the test figures, the view being that only ascertainable costs are justified.

Although KRS members strongly criticized the recent report of the monopoly committee of the BOT films council, formal discussion of the subject was deferred pending receipt of a full copy of the report.

Canada Proposes Abolishing WIB

(Continued from page 1)

for war propaganda, and if the bureau continued in peacetime, a general reorganization of the film and publicity setup will be made. The meeting of cabinet ministers allowed a recent published statement by Grierson suggesting production of Canadian-theme features in available Hollywood studios. This proposal gave the impression it was angling for a new sphere in the film industry.

UA's Adams to Charlotte

DALLAS, Sept. 7.—Byron Adams, branch manager of the United Artists exchange here, has been transferred to Charlotte.

Theatre Changes . . .

Nazis Surrender Will Darken L. A. Houses

(Continued from page 1)

ress at that time will be continued until the houses are emptied.

Theatres will open as usual the following day. The meeting was held at the Fox West-Coast offices and was attended by representatives of the California Theatre Council, Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California, Southern California Theatre Owners Association. First runs, comprising membership of the CTC, will use recording to announce the news to the audiences and ask them to join in the Lord's Prayer.

Dembow Tribute to Start Here Today

(Continued from page 1)

of the "George Dembow Tribute," subsequent meetings being held in Chicago and Los Angeles, a week apart. Post-war plans for theatre advertising and the streamlining of sales policies are among the subjects to be given the attention of the sales group, headed by Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales.

Utopia in Chicago

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—The board of censors here rejected none of the 106 films viewed during August. Nor were any deleted or restricted to adult classification.

Army Seeks More USO-Camp Shows

Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, chief of the Army's Special Services Division, seeking an expansion of USO-Camp Shows and other features of the GI entertainment program "as the tactical situation on the battlefronts improves," met here yesterday and will meet again today with industry representatives including Abe Lastfogel, USO-Camp Shows president, and Kenneth Thomson, chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee, who came from the Coast at the Army's call.

Others attending the sessions, held at the Harvard Club, are: Lt. Col. Frederick M. Warburg of the Special Services Division; Howard Braucher of the National Recreation Association, and Raymond B. Fosdick, president of the Rockefeller Foundation. Details of the expansion plan will be worked out in time for announcement Monday, an Army spokesman said yesterday.

1,000 Attend Anti Defamation Rally

(Continued from page 1)

Jackter, Budd Rogers, M. A. Schlessinger, Leopold Friedman and others.

Speakers included Quentin Reynolds, Richard Gudstadt, national director of the Anti-Defamation League; Balaban and Ed Sullivan. Members of the arrangements committee included Balaban, Harry Brandt, Max Cohen and Nate Spingold. A buffet luncheon followed the meeting.

WMC Halts Work Approved by WPB

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—Construction on a theatre in suburban Mayfair was halted yesterday by Frank L. McNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission here, because "it is an unnecessary use of manpower at a time when 30,000 workers are needed in war plants."

Construction had been approved last June by the War Production Board but the project had not been referred to the WMC until last month, according to McNamee.

Theatres Undamaged In Earthquake

TORONTO, Sept. 7.—A severe earthquake at Cornwall, Eastern Ontario, is not believed to have damaged any of the three theatres, the Capitol, Palace and Roxy in that town, according to a checkup, although public and business structures more or less cracked and schools closed because the buildings were declared unsafe. The Capitol and Palace are Famous Players units operated in partnership with C. G. Markell of Cornwall.

Gordon in Navy

BEAUMONT, Tex., Sept. 7.—Julius M. Gordon, Paramount partner in the Jefferson circuit, has entered the Navy as a lieutenant (j.g.), stationed at Wellesley, Mass. Clifford C. Porter, general manager, will operate the circuit in his absence.

A TIME FOR COMEDY

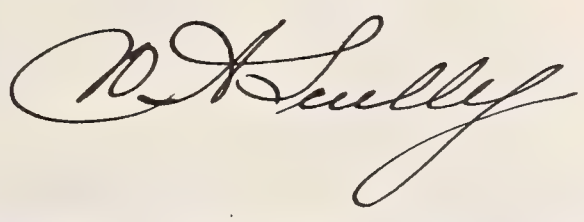
While our new Abbott and Costello comedy, "In Society," is breaking records every place, we want to remind our exhibitor friends about another swell laugh picture that our company has made.

We refer to "San Diego I Love You" which, in our opinion, is just what audiences are looking for nowadays.

"San Diego I Love You" is that perfect type of laugh entertainment which, exhibitors tell us, the public wants.

We formed our judgment about this picture, not alone from the laughs it received in the projection room, but also from an audience preview. It is one of those pictures that we used to refer to as a "sleeper."

"San Diego I Love You" is entitled to your most careful consideration and to your most careful handling. In view of the public's demand for comedy, I think we have a picture that will please everyone. I earnestly recommend that you screen it before an audience and judge for yourself its merit as a top comedy.



UNIVERSAL PICTURES COMPANY, Inc.

Atlantic City





starring

CONSTANCE MOORE *and* BRAD TAYLOR

featuring CHARLEY GRAPEWIN JERRY COLONNA

and ROBERT B. CASTAINE · ADELE MARA

PAUL WHITEMAN and Orchestra

LOUIS ARMSTRONG and his Band

and DOROTHY DANDRIDGE

RAY McCAREY — Director · Original Story by Arthur Caesar

Screenplay by Doris Gilbert · Frank Gill, Jr. · George Carleton Brown

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Plus...SPOTLIGHTS of Yesterday's FOOTLIGHTS



VAN & SCHENCK

(Gus Van & Charles Marsh)

The 'Sinatra' & 'Bing' of yesterday.



GALLAGHER & SHEAN

(Jack Kenny & Al Shean)

A detour to the 'Ziegfeld Follies'



BUCK & BUBBLES

Still the tops of the "Taps" and the Keys

ELD OVER
4 Big Weeks
REPUBLIC THEATRE
BROADWAY, NEW YORK



Beauty on the Beach
Music in the Air
Songs in Your Hearts!

CALLING MR. & MRS. AMERICA TO TRAVEL DOWN MEMORY LANE

- "BY THE SEA"
- "AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'"
- "AFTER YOU'VE GONE"
- "I AIN'T GOT NOBODY"
- "NOBODY'S SWEETHEART"
- "ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON"
- "DARKTOWN STRUTTERS' BALL"
- "MR. GALLAGHER AND MR. SHEAN"
- "WHO PUT THE BIRD ON NELLIE'S HAT"

You'll hear these — and more
in "ATLANTIC CITY"

A RHAPSODY
IN BLUE . . .
and EBONY

"The King of Jazz"
and
"The King of Swing"







Belle BAKER
the voice that thrilled millions . . . the 'Queen of the High C's'



Joe FRISCO
the original 'Jitterbug' who sang 'K-K-Katy' with every gag

The Royalty of Music
"SWEET and HOT"

New Deal for 600 at W.B.

(Continued from page 1)

Aug., 1946. The maintenance of membership provision of the previous contract, which expired Aug. 9, providing for all members to remain in good standing and for new employes to join the union is continued, with the alteration that new employes must now join within 60 days rather than 90 days as previously.

Other provisions of the new contract provide for the addition of 12 new job classifications, bringing the total to 49; a minimum 10 per cent wage increase where promotions are made and upgrading of a worker would not bring such an increase; setting up of overtime pay on a daily basis rather than a weekly; vacations of 10 working days, giving workers an additional day when a holiday falls within the vacation period; and an additional five per cent wage increase when employes complete their first 10 years of service.

Joseph Bernhard, Warner vice-president and general manager, and Samuel Schneider handled the negotiations for Warners, and Russell Moss, MPOE business manager, represented the union. Contracts are expected to be drawn up next week for submission to War Labor Board here for approval.

'U' to Splurge on 'Merry Monahans'

Promotional plans, including personal appearances of Peggy Ryan and a nationwide radio program, have been completed for Universal's "The Merry Monahans," starring Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan and Jack Oakie. Start of the campaign will be the Feenamint "Double or Nothing" radio quiz on Sept. 15 over Mutual. Originating from the Civic Opera House in Chicago, the show will limit its contestants to those whose last names are Monahan. All Monahans will be admitted to the broadcast and a special screening of "The Merry Monahans." Drug stores are carrying placards and window signs promoting the program, while station WGN is making daily spot announcements. Peggy Ryan will make personal appearances in several cities.

"The Merry Monahans" will have a premiere in Toledo Sept. 14 and will have its first New England showing at Providence Sept. 19. Monahan name tieups have been arranged for both, in addition to other promotions.

Hochstein Trial Off Until September 16

Trial of Harry Hochstein, former Chicago city official, charged with perjury before a special Federal grand jury probing racketeering within the motion picture industry, has been postponed until Sept. 16 in New York Federal District Court because Boris Kostelanetz, special U. S. assistant Attorney General, is tied up with a grand jury investigation at Scranton, Pa. In June the trial was tentatively set for this month.

Allied Meet Sept. 20

Allied of New Jersey, Harry Lowenstein, president, will hold a regional membership meeting on Sept. 20 in the Hotel Astor Yacht Room; here.

Allied States Approves U.S. Decree Proposal

(Continued from page 1)

to have the notation that the conference reserves the right hereafter "should the occasion arise," to submit to the Department or to the court such further suggestions as it may see fit.

Abram F. Myers, general counsel of National Allied, predicted another conference, pointing out that members need to confer on suggestions at home and that the need for united action makes imperative conference action.

Hugh Bruen, of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, was elected moderator and given the decision on the site and time of another conference.

Myers termed the session with Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, "enjoyable."

Irving Dollinger, reporting as head of a committee to examine new product sources and submit a plan to ensure such product, was engaged in a discussion to be continued tomorrow as the meeting closed.

The executive committee of Allied States Association met immediately after the conference.

Friday's sessions were to include a report by Ray Branch on postwar problems, and discussion and a report by Colonel Cole on a new ticket numbering plan.

U. S. Asks No Single Film Sales: Wright

BRETTON WOODS, N. H., Sept. 7.—The Government does not propose single picture selling, so there is no conflict with U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle's recent statement that Supreme Court decisions indicate that it is unlawful to tie one copyright transaction to another, and thus there is no ambiguity in the Department of Justice's consent decree proposal on the subject, Robert L. Wright, Assistant Attorney General, declared here today after undergoing questioning for two and a half hours at the conference of independent exhibitors and the quarterly meeting of the Allied States board of directors, which opened a two-day session at the Mt. Washington Hotel today.

'As I see the word 'tying'," Wright explained, "it means tying one picture to another, making the sale of one depend upon the sale of another; in other words, conditioning one license upon another. Therefore, I see no need of changing the language of the (decree) proposals. But, of course, the whole matter is still open, and the need may arise for language changes. Anything we propose is subject to modification," he added.

Wright indicated a belief that the present method of litigation will be the best in working out decree problems. The clearance proposal was understood to have been examined several times in the questioning here at the behest of some members especially interested, but nothing definite was said to have resulted. It is understood that emphasis in the discussion was on affiliated theatre divorcement and that Wright indicated this as one proposal the Government is determined to pursue.

Determining Factors

Further discussions are expected to determine whether the committee of five countrywide decree representatives appointed at last Winter's Chicago conference of independent exhibitors will meet again with Department of Jutsice officials, and what other moves it will make. Abram Myers, Allied chairman and general counsel, heads the committee, and his advice will be decisive. Chicago is indicated as the scene of another possible conference. Other Chicago committee members are: Col. H. A. Cole, president of Allied Theatre Owners of Texas; William F. Crockett, MPTO of Virginia; Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors, and Jessie Stern, president of the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York.

The Department's decree amendments embody most of the five-man committee's proposals, Stern stressed today, noting that all other members are here except Poole, and that he is represented by Hugh Bruen. Wright said he found nobody at the meeting disputing the proposals.

Stern, incidentally, did not deny the possibility of his organization's affiliating with Allied but said a general meeting would have to be called before such a step could be taken. He is accompanied by Jacob Leff, another UIE officer.

Today's meeting was opened by Martin G. Smith, Allied president, and the delegates were welcomed by Nathan Yamins and Arthur Howard. Among others present are: Walter Mitchell, Maurice Safir, Morris Perlstein, Fred Markey, Herman Rifkin, George Richfield, George Kittney, Sidney Miller, J. J. Snyder, J. D. Stefano, H. Chertkoff, V. J. Moddalera, Frank Perry, Louis Nizer, E. M. Loew, G. H. Reisner, Charles Kranz, W. L. Ainsworth, Meyer Leventhal, Roy Harrold, Fred Harrington, Henry Greene, Kenneth Forhey, Morris Pouzzner, Walter Littlefield, Leonard Goldberg, Samuel Resnick.

Para. Gets Radio Boost

The new "Kate Smith Hour" to be heard over CBS Sunday evenings will feature dramatizations of Paramount pictures on its first two programs. On Sept. 17, Diana Lynn, co-starred in "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," will be heard in a radio version of the film. Cornelia Otis Skinner will be the narrator. On Sept. 24, the program will feature "Till We Meet Again."

Shapiro, Fox to Build Three Phila. Houses

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—David Shapiro announced at the weekend that he will begin construction of a new film house in the Mayfair section of this city. Plans have been approved by the War Production Board. Melvin Fox, now operating a house in Mayfair, also disclosed plans for the construction of two additional theatres in that area following the end of the war.

Villers Confers on CanadianProductio

TORONTO, Sept. 7.—Sir Edward Villiers of Ealing Studios, England, at a meeting with John Grierson, chairman of the National Film Board, Ottawa, during his stay in Canada, discussed a proposal for the creation of British film producing facilities in the Dominion.

Sir Edward pointed out that a film unit already was on its way from Ealing to Australia and added that production of features in Canada by Ealing is possible. Several factors must be considered, however, he admitted, referring to technicians, equipment and locale. His declaration followed the recent urgings from Grierson for the production of Canadian features, if not in Canada then in Hollywood.

Villiers declared he was studying the reception of British films in North America on his tour. British pictures are being speeded up but there is no intention of destroying the British character of the product, he said.

Tickets at $15 for 'Wilson' Premiere

ATLANTA, Sept. 7.—Darryl Zanuck's "Wilson" will have its Southern premiere here next Wednesday night at the Paramount theatre with tickets selling at $5 to $15, by invitation. Proceeds will go to the Tallulah Falls School.

The premiere, it is said, will be the biggest since "Gone With the Wind," five years ago. A replica of the White House will top the marquee. The exploitation campaign, which includes tie-ups with local radio stations and broadcasts from Wilson's former law office and from the church where he was married, is under the direction of Spence Pierce, Leonard Allen and Jimmy Gillespie. Scheduled to attend are Darryl F. Zanuck, Alexander Knox, Lynn Bari, Lamar Trotti, and Roddy McDowall.

Services for Brown, Oldest RKO Worker

Services were held this week at Mount Neboh Cemetery, Brooklyn, for Abraham Brown, 75, oldest RKO employee. Brown had been associated with RKO Theatres since the days of Percy Williams and through the Keith regime, was in charge of Brooklyn bill posting and other outdoor advertising. He is survived by his wife, Bessie L., and two sisters, Emma and Martha.

40 from Yorke for US

With the completion of five short subjects which Emerson Yorke Studio, here, is now producing for the U. S. Office of Education, Yorke will have delivered six series of training films for a total of 40 reels for the war program.

RKO Books Monogram

The RKO national circuit has signed with Monogram for the latter's 1944-45 program, it was reported here yesterday by Steve Broidy, Monogram vice-president and general sales manager.

Short Subject Reviews

"Post-War Farms"

(20th Century-Fox-March of Time)

An informative, provocative discussion of the American farmer in the post-war era, as he competes or cooperates with the ultra-modern and aggressive agricultural movement, is described in this subject. The post-war farm is pictured in contrast with the traditional urban concept of the farmer and his wife and sons eking out a bare living from the land with a few cows and chickens and a kitchen garden. It is pictured as a huge industrial enterprise, directed by trained agriculturists and employing thousands of workers to handle jobs on a mass production scale with innovations in packaging and canning in plants on the premises designed to get produce to the consumer in double-quick. The subject is a fast one and MOT's treatment is interesting and adequate. Photography and commentary are routine. Running time, 17 minutes, nine seconds.

"Brazil Today"

(RKO-Pathe-'This Is America')

Despite a somewhat stock title, "Brazil Today" is lifted from the groove now hewn deep by a succession of travelogues which barely scratch the surface of the vital South American issue, by a conspicuous lack of routine fiestas and siestas. It successfully shows Brazil developing into a great nation, meeting the challenge of progressive neighbors to take its place in the postwar world. The contributions of each Brazilian state is shown; industrial Sao Paulo is pictured as a buzzing metropolis working and producing for modern machinery Brazilian and world consumption; Rio de Janeiro is shown not only as a resort community, but also as a progressive city equalling and surpassing cities in other countries in methods of government, education and city planning. "Brazil Today" is a credit to Frederic Ullman's "This Is America" series. Commentary, photography and score are excellent. Running time 17½ mins.

"Monumental Utah"

(M-G-M)

James Fitzpatrick tours Zion National Park, Powell and Bryce Canyons, catching all the natural beauty of these great American scenic landmarks, to produce one of the most impressive of recent releases in the "Traveltalk" series. Musical background is provided by the famed Mormon Tabernacle choir. Running time, 9 mins.

"Sports Quiz"

(M-G-M)

Pete Smith, in his latest "What's Your I.Q.?" release, queries the audience on the field of sports. In customary Pete Smith vein, this short is highly amusing as well as informative. There are freakish and slow-motion shots of Carl Hubbell, Lawson Little, Fred Perry and "Dutch" Smith in action. Direction is good and commentary excellent. Running time, 10 mins.

Reviews

"The Great Mike"

(PRC)

Tiajuana, Mexico, Sept. 7

BECAUSE this attraction has a racing background, PRC determined to maintain flavor by unfurling it in the shadow of the track at Agua Caliente, an easy 10 minutes by car to the South. This is what "The Great Mike" shows:

A warm and likeable yarn about a boy and his friends — 'Corky,' the dog, and 'Mike,' the horse. Both of them are in business with young Robert (Buzzy) Henry. Corky delivers the local newspaper to the door and Mike provides the transportation. Through Stuart Erwin, trainer of racers, and Pierre Watkins, owner of a neighboring stable, Mike gets his chance and emerges as winner of the big turf event of the season. This provides complete justification for 'Buzzy,' gives him the money with which to re-equip the news boys' clubroom and fills his young frame with a great deal of happiness. The film is almost without benefit of villainy, but not quite. Rival bookmakers try to doctor Mike, and shoot the dog who saves the night. Mike loses heart for racing, later regaining it when the dog's facsimile appears. Thereafter, it's clear sailing.

Young Henry is good as Jimmy Dolan. His part is the fattest of the humans in the cast, which includes Carl Switzer, Edythe Elliott, Gwen Watkin, Lane Chandler and Marion Martin. Corky and Mike, however, prove difficult to best in their appeal. Martin Mooney wrote the original and served as associate producer under Leon Fromkess, Wallace W. Fox directed simply, but effectively, within the modest boundaries of the total venture.

Running time, 73 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 23.

RED KANN

"Black Magic"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Sept. 7

THE third in the "Charlie Chan" series which Philip N. Krasne and James S. Burkett are producing for Monogram is somewhat more slowly paced than its predecessors, but it is an ingeniously-contrived murder mystery nevertheless.

Sidney Toler, as the famous detective, is called upon to investigate a murder which took place while his daughter, Frances, was attending a seance. Disembodied voices, alarming apparitions, and similar goings-on interfere with his investigation and are the basis for much of the comic relief, furnished in fine style by Mantan Moreland in the role of Birmingham, Chan's colored servant. Chan himself is almost killed before he manages to apprehend the killer and reconstruct the crime, which was committed by scientific methods so advanced as to seem almost incredible.

Phil Rosen directed from a screenplay by George Callahan, based on the Earl Derr Biggers character. The cast includes Frances Chan, Joseph Crehan, Jaqueline De Wit and Helen Beverley.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 9.

THALIA BELL

"Silver City Kid"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Sept. 7

A SUCCESSION of fist-fights and a fiery finish make this an easily acceptable Western drama. Wally Vernon's comedy provides pleasant highlights, and Allan Lane is sufficiently stalwart as the cowboy hero. Only Peggy Stewart's portrayal of the heroine fails to carry conviction.

The screenplay, by Taylor Gaven, from a story by Bennett Cohen, sticks to the tried-and-true Western formula. The sole element of novelty lies in the fact that this time it's molybdenum the crooks are after. The swift pace of John English's direction and the careful production given the picture by associate producer Stephen Auer make it a creditable piece of work, and one that should please action fans.

Running time, 54 minutes. "G."*

T. B.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Malafronte Promoted

G. J. Malafronte, formerly traveling playdate representative of Universal's home office contract and sales department, has been promoted to the post of assistant manager of branch operations.

Free Tickets Spur Drive

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 7.—Responding to an offer of free tickets, under the auspices of the local War Activities Committee, children here brought in a record 1,496,190 pounds of waste paper during a drive.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Sept. 7

MG-M has what is declared to be a record number of 34 directors under contract, two of whom are currently making their first features. The latter are Richard Whorf, directing "Autumn Fever," and Edward Cahn directing "Telltale Hands."

Others under contract include: Robert Z. Leonard, who will soon start "Weekend at the Waldorf"; Jack Conway, who directed "Dragon Seed"; Clarence Brown, who is currently editing "National Velvet"; Andrew Marton, directing "Gentle Annie"; and Henry Koster, who is doing "Music for Millions."

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RKO has signed Leslie Goodwins to direct "Come Share My Love," Leon Errol starrer which will soon go into production. . . . Errol Flynn has left for Mexico for a two-week rest before starting "San Antonio," which David Butler will direct for producer Robert Buckner at Warners. . . . Monogram will train cameras on two new pictures early in September. They are "Mystery Mansion," another in the "Charlie Chan" series, and "Saddle Smoke," a Johnny Mack Brown Western.

•

Jack H. Skirball has changed the title of "Fickle Fortune" to "It's in the Bag." The picture will star Fred Allen and will be released through UA. . . . Charles Bickford has sold an original story, "Foxfire," to Kurt Neumann, the director. . . . Samuel Goldwyn has engaged Donald Woods and S. Z. Sakall for important roles in "The Wonder Man." . . . Jinx Falkenberg will be starred in Columbia's South Sea saga, "Song of Tahiti." David O'Brien will play the lead. . . . Producer Lou Harris has started work on "Isle of Tabu," third of the Paramount "Musical Parades" for the new season. . . . Eleanor Parker has been assigned to head the cast of "Rendezvous" at Warners.

•

Robert Shayne will have the role of the heavy in Warners' production "Nobody Lives Forever." . . . Phil Terry has been signed by Paramount for a major role in "The Lost Weekend," which Billy Wilder will direct and Charles Brackett will produce. . . . Alexander-Stern Productions has purchased "Traffic in Souls," original by Marshall Kingsley, for early PRC production. The Warner studio has a total of 45 stars in pictures currently in work, or soon to be released. Four pictures are scheduled to go before the cameras at M-G-M during September. The first will be "Hold High the Torch," with Elizabeth Taylor, Edmund Gwenn and Selena Royle. Preparing are "Without Love," to star Spencer Tracy of Decision," starring Greer Garson, with Gregory Peck, Lionel Barrymore and Marsha Hunt; and "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," which will team M-G-M's two child stars, Margaret O'Brien and Jackie (Butch) Jenkins.

Boys,
"Summer Storm" is no stor

IT'S A TORNADO at the BOXOFFICE!

CHECK UP!

CALL UP YOUR "CONTACTS!"

Find out about the records "Summer Storm" broke in its first 11 openings for Loew's in MEMPHIS, SYRACUSE, ATLANTA, NORFOLK, RICHMOND, HARRISBURG, READING, TOLEDO, WILMINGTON, for Warner's in PHILADELPHIA and HARTFORD, and for the Odeon Circuit in VANCOUVER!

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN GOD EVER FORGOT TO PUT A SOUL INTO..!



Angelus Pictures Presents

GEORGE SANDERS · LINDA DARNELL

in ANTON CHEKOV'S

"Summer Storm"

with ANNA LEE · HUGO HAAS · LORI LAHNER and EDW. EVERETT HORTON

Produced by SEYMOUR NEBENZAL · Directed by DOUGLAS SIRK

Released Thru United Artists

She's bad for the men who hated her . . .
bad for the men who loved her . . .
bad even for herself!

"IT'S THE TALK OF THE WHOLE COUNTRY"—WALTER WINCHELL

One of the ads.... See?

U.A.... See?

'Village' and 'Brown' Set Pace in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7.—"Casanova Brown," "Greenwich Village" and "Janie" opened strong here this week, sharing honors with "Going My Way" and Dragon Seed" in their third weeks, and "Wilson," in its fourth.

"Casanova Brown," dualled with "Moonlight and Cactus," did $30,000 at both the Hillstreet and Pantages Theatres. "Greenwich Village," plus "Storm Over Lisbon," brought $34,000 at Loew's State, and $18,000 at the Chinese. And "Janie," opening in three Warner houses, registered $29,-330 at the Downtown, $25,907 at the Hollywood, and $25,599 at the Wiltern. These grosses were well above average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 6:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,200).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,500).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,200).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO) 7 days
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
HILLSREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $24,100).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $16,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $20,-000. (Average: $11,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $33,-500. (Average: $20,300).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,-700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7days, 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,600).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,500).
"Janie" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,907. (Average: $17,000).
"Janie" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $29,330. (Average: $18,700).
"Janie" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,599. (Average: $15,200).

Trunk Leaves Exhibition

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Sept. 7.—George Manos, Ohio circuit operator, has purchased the Uptown and Mahoning theatres here from Joseph W. Trunk, for the past 25 years active in exhibition and former director of the ITOA here, who will retire from the industry to devote full time to his insurance business.

Indianapolis Gives $15,000 to 'Seed'

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 7.—"Dragon Seed" at Loew's will top local theatres this week, with a gross of $15,000. The Indiana Theatres expects $13,-000 from "Double Indemnity" and "Passport to Destiny."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 5-7:

"Janie" (WB)
"Night of Adventure" (RKO)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)
INDIANA—(3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Two Man Submarine" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (22c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Move-over from Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,900).

'Sensations' $21,000 Is Tops in Denver

DENVER, Sept. 7.—"Going My Way," in its fifth week at the Denham, was expected to gross $12,000, while "Sensations of 1945," on a dual at the Denver, pointed toward $21,000. All moveovers were reported doing fair, and a couple of reissues at the Rialto showed a 60 percent above average gain.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 3-6:

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Charlie Chan In Black Magic" (Mono.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $8,960. (Average: $5,600).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,460. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-74c) 5th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $4,500).
"Jungle Woman" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,275. (Average: $9,300).
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"My Friend Flicka" (20th-Fox)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, return. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000).

$100,000 War Fund Quota

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—The Community and War Fund quota for Chicago's amusement and recreation division has been set at $100,000, it was reported here yesterday by Arthur Schoenstadt, president of H. Schoenstadt and Sons and chairman of the local drive. Others here who will lead the campaign are Eddie Silverman, president of Essaness circuit, and John Balaban, head of Balaban and Katz.

Documentary Courses

The Institute of Film Technique at the College of the City of New York will give professional training for both men and women in all branches of documentary film work beginning Sept. 28. Guest lecturers will include John Grierson, Robert J. Flaherty, Joris Ivens, John Ferno, Alice V. Kelliher, Irving Lerner and others.

All-Time High in Toronto for 'Way'

TORONTO, Sept. 7.—"Going My Way" is probably headed for an all-time high at Shea's Theatre for its opening week, with an expected $20,-800 for six days and an extra midnight performance. The fifth week of "The White Cliffs of Dover" looked like $12,700 at Loew's, with an added midnighter for the holiday, and "In Society" at the Uptown indicated $11,-800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 7:

"San Demetrio-London" (British)
EGLINTON—(1,085) (18c-30c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $12,800).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $12,700. (With midnight show). (Average: $11,200).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $20,800. (With midnight show). (Average: $12,800).
"Shine on Harvest Moon" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,400).
"In Society" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (With midnight show). (Average: $9,800).

'3 Men' in Buffalo Exceeds $24,000

BUFFALO, Sept. 7.—"Three Men in White" and Horace Heidt on the stage at the Buffalo Theatre look best here and probably will beat $24,000. "The Seventh Cross" seems assured of $21,000 at the Great Lakes, while "Casonova Brown" and another at the Century are headed for a fine $19,000. Weather turned warm again, and the polio epidemic continues unabated.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 9:

"Three Men In White" (M-G-M)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (55c-76c) 7 days. Horace Heidt and Musical Knights on stage. Gross: $24,300. (Average: $17,400).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,200).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Falcon Out West" (RKO))
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,200).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Moon Over Las Vegas" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. "In Society," 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,400).

Legion Rates Twelve; Re-classifies Two

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Crime by Night," Warners; "Land of the Outlaw," Monogram; "Pearl of Death," Universal; "Secret Mission," General Film Distributors - Marcel Hellman; "Sonora Stagecoach," Monogram; "Swing Hostess," PRC; "That's My Baby," Republic, and "Trail to Gunsight," Universal.

Classified A-2 were: "Casanova Brown," RKO-International: "Code of the Prairie," Republic; "Till We Meet Again," Paramount: "The Very Thought of You," Warners.

The Legion has reclassified "Mademoiselle Fifi" and "Music in Manhattan," both RKO, B catagory to Class A-2.

'Janie' Is Leading With $34,000 in Philadelphia 1st Ru

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—The ho day weekend was a big one for dow town houses, sending the new seaso off to a big start. All new openin fared exceptionally well, with the fie led by "Janie," bringing $30,000 the Boyd, plus $4,000 for the Sun dual showing at the Earle. Also s standing is "Marine Raider" at th Stanton, pointing to a near-reco $17,500.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Sept. 6-8:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
ALDINE—(900) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,200. (Ave age: $14,600).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(800) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $10,0 (Average: $4,000).
"Janie" (WB)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $16,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox) 6 days
"Janie" (WB) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (50c-65c-85c-95c) 6 da of vaudeville, including Duke Ellington orchestra, Cook & Brown, Wini Johns and Dusty Fletcher. Gross: $36,000. (A erage: $27,600).
"In Society" (Univ.)
FOX—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) days. Gross: $25,800. (Average: $20,50
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75 85c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $8,500. (Ave age: $6,600).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75 85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,500. (A erage: $5,800).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65 75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,00 (Average: $22,500).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75 85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. A erage: $20,000).
"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75 85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $ 400).

New Omaha Mark fo 'Casanova Brown'

OMAHA, Sept. 7.—The two smalle first run downtown houses had th best comparative box office scores th week. "Casanova Brown" set $10,100 record at the Brandeis, 1,200-seater that seldom exhibits a sin gle feature. "Christmas Holiday plus "The Invisible Man's Return were good for $10,600 at the Omah Weather remained cool.

Estimated receipts for the week end ing Sept. 6-7:

"Casonova Brown" (WB)
BRANDIES—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 day Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,500).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"The Invisible Man's Return" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gros $10,600. (Average: $8,400).
"Up In Mabel's Room" (UA)
"Ladies in Washington" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 day Gross: $11,100. (Average: $9,800).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 day Gross: $9,600. (Average: $11,700).

MOT for Schools, Clubs

A new edition of March of Tim for use in schools and clubs was an nounced here yesterday by produce Richard de Rochemont. Known a the "Forum Edition," the adaptation in 16mm, of regular MOT will ru 12 to 15 minutes. Starting date fo the new series is set for Oct. 1. Lo Simpson has been appointed sales su pervisor with offices in New York Chicago and San Francisco.

Brown' in Record Cincinnati Draw

CINCINNATI, Sept. 7.—The pro-ged Labor Day holiday skyrocket- grosses, with "Casanova Brown" ading for a tremendous $25,000 at KO's Albee, up $11,500 on the aver-e, for the biggest all-picture take this house in recent history. "Janie" doing an estimated $16,000 at D's Palace, and "Going My Way" inues strong with $8,000 in sight RKO's Shubert, where it is playing seventh week. Returns at other uses are also up.

Estimated receipts for the week ding Sept. 6-9:

Casanova Brown" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 ys, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: 5,000. (Average: $13,500).

Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd eek. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
Forty Thieves" (UA)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. ross: $1,650. (Average: $1,400).

She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
Spook Town" (RKO)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. ross: $800. (Average: $800).

Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 ys, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd eek, following one week at the Albee and oveover week at the Grand. Gross: $8,-0. (Average: $6,500).

In Society" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 ys, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd eek, moveover from the Albee. Gross: ,500. (Average: $5,000).

Dead End" (Film Classics. Reissue)
Minstrel Man" (PRC)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 ys, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: ,000. (Average: $5,000).

Janie" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) days, plus Saturday midnight show. ross: $16,000. (Average: $13,500).

Going My Way" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-c) 7 days, 7th week, following three weeks the Palace, two weeks at the Grand and ne week at the Shubert. Gross: $8,000. Average: $5,000).

$19,500 for 'Brown' Tops in Providence

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 7. — "Casanova rown" and "Mademoiselle Fifi" layed a near-record $19,500 in the rst week at RKO's Albee. Also ouching $19,500 was "The Seventh ross," at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week nding Sept. 8:

Casanova Brown" (RKO)
Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE — (2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 ys. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $12,800).

Atlantic City" (Rep.)
Soul of a Monster" (Col.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: ,500. (Average: $10,500).

The Seventh Cross" (MGM)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 ys. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,700).

In Society" (Univ.)
Crime By Night" (WB)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,-00).

Dragon Seed" (MGM)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, rd week. (Moved over after two weeks Loew's State.) Gross: $4,000. (Aver-ge: $4,000).

Yellow Rose of Texas" (Rep.)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On tage: Eva Barcinska, Diana Berry, Ron arver, Jed Dooley Co., Renald & Rudy, harris & Raoul. Gross: $5,000. (Average: 5,500).

Strangers in the Night" (Rep.)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (40c-65c) 3 ays. On stage: Tommy Ryan, Artie Dann. he Choclateers, Ray & Harrison, The eldens. Four Bombshells. Gross: $5,000. Average: $6,900).

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"DOUBLE INDEMNITY" OPENS AT N.Y. PARAMOUNT 21% OVER "MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK" FOR BIGGEST OPENING DAY IN ONE YEAR WITH EXCEPTION OF "LADY IN THE DARK" AND "GOING MY WAY"... N.Y. REVIEWERS GO WILD OVER THIS SENSATIONAL MAC MURRAY, STANWYCK, ROBINSON THRILLER...CALL IT "PERFECT MOVIE" (WORLD-TELEGRAM); "ONE OF MOST VITAL AND ARRESTING FILMS OF YEAR" (HERALD-TRIB); "MOST TERRIFYING STUDY OF CRIME THAT HAS EVER REACHED SCREEN" (NEWS); "THIS IS A MUST FOR THOSE SEEKING HAIR-LIFTING ESCAPISM" (MIRROR); "PACKS WALLOP OF GENERAL TWO-GUN PATTON'S ARMY" (TELEGRAPH)!

Hutton in Cleveland Boosts 'Adventure'

CLEVELAND, Sept. 7.—Betty Hutton was a box office bombshell at the RKO Palace, where crowds paid in $50,000, almost double the weekly take, to see her, and "Night of Adventure." All of downtown houses had a good holiday attendance in spite of five holdovers.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 6:

"Janie" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65s) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $3,200).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,267) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Night of Adventure" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Betty Hutton, Boyd Raeburn orchestra. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $25,-000).

"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,-000)

'Way' Leads Business Boost in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Sept. 7.—An influx of major attractions is giving local business a boost, but not to the extent which was expected, with the exception of "Going My Way," which is around record-breaking proportions on a $22,000 take at Keith's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 7:

"The Seventh Cross" (MGM)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).

"Janie" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Lionel Kaye; Peter Chan; Wally Ward; the Fontaines. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

Intervenors Appeal Saugus Decision

Notices of appeal have been filed in the Boston tribunal by the three intervenors in the arbitration case filed by Richard Rubin, operator of the State theatre, Saugus, Mass., in which he was awarded reduction in clearance held by houses in Malden and Melrose over the State, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The intervenors are Melrose Theatre Co., Middlesex Amusement Co. and New England Theatres. John A. Daly, the arbitrator, found, in his award, that the principal competitor of the complainant was the Lynn house and that competition existed to a lesser degree with Melrose and Malden.

Plenty of laugh-filled entertainment for everybody. Will literally have customers rolling in the aisles. Edward Small adds another to his long list of boxoffice successes.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

A riotous affair which is going to do very well at the boxoffice. Fast-paced direction points up comedy situations excellently, and the production is a credit to Small.

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

A rollicking, riotous comedy which audiences should welcome with open arms and purses. Laughs of every variety from gentle chuckles to hearty abdominal guffaws.

BOXOFFICE

Rollicking service comedy. With the accent on comedy, this provides a change from the type of war story seen around.

THE EXHIBITOR

Commercial comedy-farce which should stand up strongly. Geared for hefty boxoffice. Will secure solid audience response.

VARIETY

Gay slapstick comedy recounts the hilarious experiences of two U. S. Marines. Good clean fun and plenty of hearty laughs as light escapist entertainment.

M. P. DAILY

Rapid-fire farce comedy loaded with laughs for the average fan. It's the sort of fun that goes over big.

FILM DAILY

"Dese are for youse guys 'cause your reviews was so swell!"



More of that Laff-Cash from Edward Small who brought you the dough with "Up In Mabel's Room"!

WILLIAM BENDIX · HELEN WALKER
DENNIS O'KEEFE
in
ABROAD WITH TWO YANKS

with JOHN LODER · JANET LAMBERT · GEORGE CLEVELAND

Based on an original story by Fred Guiol · Adaptation by Edward E. Seabrook and Tedwell Chapman · Screenplay by Charles Rogers, Wilkie Mahoney, Ted Sills
Directed by ALLAN DWAN

Of course it's UA!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 49 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Product Tie Up Favored for Allied Houses

Pending Syndicate Deal Explained by Dollinger

BRETTON WOODS, N. H., Sept. 10.—Allied States Association is "definitely interested" in a new product plan presented to its board of directors Friday by Irving Dollinger of New Jersey, chairman of an Allied committee which has been in contact with an unnamed syndicate offering pictures in exchange for contracts with Allied theatre members assuring financing and playing time, it was learned here following a two-hour discussion at the two-day meeting of Allied and other independent organization leaders at the Mt. Washington Hotel.

While details of the plan and its proponents were not disclosed officially, the committee, comprising also Nathan Yamins of Massachusetts and William L. Ainsworth of Wisconsin, was empowered to continue explorations. Unofficially, it was said that the project, if adopted, would be sponsored by Allied, that a bank with "great resources" is ready to lend aid,

(*Continued on page 3*)

PCCITO Tie with Allied 'Inevitable'

BRETTON WOODS, N. H., Sept. 10.—An eventual affiliation of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners with Allied States Association is "inevitable," an officer of Allied said privately at the Allied meeting here at the weekend.

Martin G. Smith, Allied president, will attend the PCCITO quarterly meeting in Seattle Sept. 19-21, accord-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Alperson to Make 6; 20th-Fox Distributes

Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation will distribute a program of special features which are to be made independently by Edward Alperson, formerly general manager of RKO Theatres, it was learned at the weekend.

Alperson's program calls for six spe-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Raw Stock Cut Is Averted

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Representatives of the distributors convened at the weekend with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the photographic section of the War Production Board, and were told that while they will have to make a considerable saving in film this quarter, they will receive 100 percent of their regular allotments for the three final months, although small amounts of raw stock may have to be shipped from one company to another in one or two cases to meet programmed operations.

The meeting opened with a discussion of the problem involving the present shortage of raw stock and a determination of how the various companies would share in the saving of approximately 40,000,000 feet necessary this quarter to get supply and demand in better balance.

Developments disclosed that the film manufacturers now are beginning to get back into capacity production after the Summer clean-up and vacation period, and that the supply of positive black-and-white stock will be further increased, although it may create the temporary shifting of production from other types which are in a better supply position.

As a result, it is expected that the deficiency, which requires the companies to make up some of the overuse of the first half of the year, will shortly be overcome, and no further difficulties are anticipated.

End Ban That Hit Receipts 50-60%

Charlotte, N. C., Sept. 10.—Exhibitors hereabouts welcomed the weekend lifting of a health department "polio" ban which has kept children under 15 out of theatres here since June 30.

At the height of the epidemic several weeks ago exhibitors in the hard-hit Carolina counties reported business off as much as 50 to 60 per cent. First sign of the return to normalcy at theaters was resumption of kiddie matinees on Saturday.

Sees End of WMC Curbs

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Labor controls of the War Manpower Commission will be lifted following the end of the war in Europe, the Senate War Investigating Committee was told Friday by Chairman Paul V. McNutt.

With the expected release of 4,000,000 workers following the estimated 40 per cent cut in war production, McNutt said it will no longer be necessary to maintain the present restrictions on the employment of male labor although some "non-regulatory" controls will be continued in order to cope with emergencies that may arise in individual war production centers.

Cowdin Sees Open Markets For U.S. Films

Believes Accumulated Revenues Will Be Paid

By MILTON LIVINGSTON

The American film industry, among other American industries, can expect to receive revenues from the countries of Europe now being liberated by the Allied armies, including France, Italy, Belgium and Holland as soon as "responsible" governments are reestablished in the early postwar period, in the opinion of J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of directors of Universal Pictures, and a director of the National Association of Manufacturers.



J. Cheever Cowdin

In an interview with *Motion*

(*Continued on page 6*)

SOPEG to Step Up Film Union Drive

"The perfecting in all respects of our present organization in the film industry and its extension to employes in radio," is one of the minimum organizing aims of the United Office and Profesisonal Workers of America, CIO, set forth in a resolution adopted by the 400 delegates representing 55,000 organized employes from 33 states

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA Assigns 31 to 'SYWA' Premieres

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—Thirty-one field men have been engaged by United Artists to supervise key-city openings of the David Selznick-United Artists "Since You Went Away," Louis Pollock, UA director of advertising and publicity, announced here today. Pollock is here from New York confer-

(*Continued on page 7*)

U. S. Sees 43,066 Foreign Houses Open to Hollywood

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A potential foreign market of 43,066 theatres, with 26,363,315 seats, not including houses in Germany, Italy, Japan or Axis-dominated countries, is open to American film distributors, it is estimated by Nathan D. Golden, chief of the motion picture units of the Department of Commerce.

With the 17,919 houses, with 11,700,789 seats, in this country, American pictures at the beginning of 1944 could have been shown in 60,985 theatres throughout the world, with an estimated 38,064,104 seats, Golden declared in a report made public at the weekend, on the impact of war on the foreign film industry.

At the beginning of 1940, he said, there were 79,129 theatres throughout

(*Continued on page 6*)

MGM Cuts Red Tape For Its Exchanges

M-G-M home office and exchange operations have been 'streamlined' to alleviate labor and paper shortages. Among the innovations is the shortening or elimination entirely of the numerous reports heretofore required of the exchanges by the home office.

Also, duplication of identical records kept in both the New York headquarters and the field offices has been eliminated, with one office or the other retaining certain files.

Personal Mention

GUS EYSSELL, president and managing director of the Music Hall, will leave New York today for a two-week visit in Hollywood viewing new product.

•

KENNETH THOMSON, chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee, returned to the Coast Saturday night after attending a two-day USO-Camp Show meeting here called by BRIG. GEN. JOSEPH W. BYRON, chief of the U. S. Army Special Services Division.

•

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, assistant to 20th-Fox general sales manager W. J. KUPPER; L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager, and his assistant, JACK BLOOM, left over the weekend for Boston.

•

PVT. LOU CHAPMAN, formerly of Quigley Publications, has been transferred from anti-aircraft at Camp Stewart, Georgia, to infantry at Camp Carson, Colorado.

•

LOU MILLER, manager of RKO Radio's Western-division sales approval department, has left New York for two weeks of golfing at Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

•

HARRY MANDEL, RKO Theatres' home office advertising-publicity manager, is due back in New York today from an Ohio trip and is leaving later in the day for Washington.

• •

SHELDON GUNSBERG of 20th-Fox's international department here, and LOIS WAHL of the Theatre Guild, were married over the weekend at New York's Temple Emanuel.

•

GERTRUDE TRACY, manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, Cleveland, was a vacation visitor to Quigley Publications at the weekend.

•

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, returned to New York from California over the weekend.

•

ROBERT F. BLUMOFE of Paramount's home office legal staff, has been commissioned a lieutenant in the Army and assigned to Governors' Island.

•

MYRON SIEGEL, advertising-publicity director of Century Circuit, was married yesterday to MILDRED GANEK, at Brooklyn Jewish Center.

•

MARY PICKFORD is due in New York today from Hollywood and a Chicago stopover.

O'Donnell, Kinsky In Capital Today

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—R. J. O'Donnell, national industry chairman of the Fifth War Loan Drive, and Joseph Kinsky, industry coordinator, will attend a conference on final campaign results at the Treasury Department here today.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ASSISTANT U. S. Attorney General Robert L. Wright was quoted as saying at the Allied States board meeting at Bretton Woods, N. H., last week that "The Government does not propose single picture selling (through its anti-block booking clause in the new consent decree proposals), so there is no conflict with Attorney General Biddle's statement and there is no ambiguity in our proposal. As I see the word 'tying,' it means tying one picture to another, making the sale of one depend upon the sale of another; in other words, conditioning one license upon another. Therefore, I see no need of changing the language of the proposal."

Well, all that Wright thereby contributes to the running debate as to whether or not the Government's new decree proposal would result in the sale of pictures singly is his own name, and that to the theretofore unofficial declaration of an anonymous spokesman in the Department of Justice who had been quoted as saying that single picture selling was not the Department's objective. Now Wright has given that statement official status, but he has not yet explained for the benefit of either exhibitor or distributor how pictures could be bought or sold otherwise than singly under the Department's proposal.

•

Wright says that "tying" means: "tying one picture to another, making the sale of one depend upon the sale of another; in other words, conditioning one license upon another."

Anyone who is at all interested in the subject knows what "tying" one picture to another means. It is difficult to believe that there is a single exhibitor or distributor who would be affected by the Department's proposal who was puzzled by the meaning of the word or who was seeking a definition of it from the Department. What the trade would like to know, even now, is how any distributor, bound by such a decree proposal as that advanced by the Department, could sell more than one picture at a time without risking the penalties of contempt or the equally costly consequences of answering endless complaints of multi-picture buyers that the licensing of one or more films was conditioned upon the licensing of another or others.

Mr. Wright is a lawyer and should ask himself whether, as a lawyer, he would counsel a client of his to sell other than singly if that client were subject to such a regulation as the Department proposes.

Wright, as he says, may "see no need of changing the language of the proposal." The need, it may be pointed out to him, resides in the fact that decree distributors could not risk any method of selling other than by individual pictures under the proposal's present language.

• •

A recent bulletin of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska scoffs at the contention of some industry commentators (as reported in these columns several weeks ago) that affiliated theatre divorcement would have an adverse effect upon the quality and continuity of production, due to the fact that production companies would be unable to gamble on extremely costly or non-formula pictures without the assurance of the financial cushion that their theatre affiliates afford them.

Says the bulletin: "The audiences will still be there and so will the theatres, playing the best pictures they can get. Is any one so naive as to seriously believe they'll be buying pictures for less than the non-competitive affiliates are now paying? Phooey!" was the bulletin's answer to its own question.

Let the author of the bulletin ask himself if the new and, presumably, independent operators of theatres divorced from their producer - distributor affiliations will continue to give that producer-distributor's product their preferred playing time for the asking; whether they will continue to give extended runs to that product; whether they will increase admission scales for that product on request; whether they will play that product at terms and on policies designed not only to return the maximum on production investments from each house but also to establish a merchandising standard for the product elsewhere. Is the author so naive as to believe seriously that the independent operator will be as good to the producer-distributor as the producer-distributor was to himself?

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 10

AL KAUFMAN has joined Sol Lesser as a producer, the first production being "Crazy to Dance." Kaufman, long with Paramount, has been inactive since resigning as general manager from the Myron Selznick agency several years ago.

•

John Payne's first picture since his discharge from military service will be "Waltz Me Around Again, Willie" for 20th Century-Fox.

•

Columbia signed Sam Katzman to produce the serial, "Brenda Starr, Reporter." It will not interfere with Katzman's Monogram commitments.

•

RKO bought "Who Is My Love," an original murder mystery.

•

20th Century-Fox gave John Brahm a new long term directorial contract.

Meeting in Capital On Wac Drive Aid

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—George J. Schaefer, chairman of the War Activities Committee, Si Fabian, Ed Schreiber and Harry Mandel, WAC executives, are due here from New York today to discuss the results of exhibitors' recent drive for recruits for the Women's Army Corps with Major General James A. Ulio, adjutant general of the Army.

Promotional material used in the drive has been assembled by the WAC and will be presented to General Ulio. It is understood that in view of the continued drive of the WAC to recruit more volunteers, theatres might be called upon for further aid in acelerating recruiting.

Elect Kelly Eagle-Lion President

Arthur W. Kelly was elected president and treasurer of Eagle-Lion Films, Inc.; U. N. W. Ronalds, chairman of the board, and Ralph E. Reynolds, secretary, at a meeting held last week in the office of Maurice Leon, Eagle-Lion general counsel. The board of directors elected includes Capt. Harold Auten, besides Kelly, Ronalds and Reynolds.

The company's immediate activities will be supervision of any distribution contracts made in the U. S. for the so-called "J. Arthur Rank group" of producers.

Odlum's Son a Prisoner

Lt. Stanley A. Odlum, 29-year-old son of Floyd B. Odlum, president of the Atlas Corp., is a prisoner of war in Austria, according to a message received from the War Department by his wife. The plane in which he was a bombardier was shot down over Austria July 25.

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Schenck Will Head 'Dimes'

March of Dimes chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc., has brought the 1944 Dimes campaign to a formal close with the presentation of his final report and check for $2,219,669 to President Roosevelt at the White House. The check represented approximately half of the total theatre collections of $4,667,520, an increase of more than 120 per cent over 1943.



Nicholas Schenck

While no announcement was made and Mr. Schenck did not comment on the matter, it is assumed in industry circles that he will again accede to the President's request that he head the industry's 1945 March of Dimes drive.

Report to the President

In his report to President Roosevelt, Schenck said: "It was only through the hard work of thousands of theatre owners, managers and their staffs that the drive could have been such an outstanding success. To them should go the major credit."

In the report Schenck estimated 35,000,000 contributions from men, women and children. "The vast number of penny donations by children was a heart-warming phase of the drive," said his report. He also pointed out that the cost of operating the nationwide campaign was only .08 per cent, a new low.

Goodman to Survey Latin-America

Morris Goodman, Republic's vice-president in charge of foreign sales, will leave here Sept. 16 for a three-months' trip to Latin-America in connection with the company's Mexican production and sales conditions in that territory.

En route, Goodman will stop off at the company's studio in Hollywood where he will confer with Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board, and James Fitzpatrick, in charge of Mexican production. The first of five features to be made by Fitzpatrick will start on Nov. 9. It is titled "Song of Mexico."

Goodman will leave for Mexico after the studio conferences, and will make stops at Panama, Venezuela, Trinidad, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru and Cuba. He is scheduled to arrive in Rio de Janeiro on Oct. 24 where he will arrange for the premiere of the musical, "Brazil," which will probably be date and date there and in Sao Paulo. Republic's foreign sales head will also confer with the company's sales representatives and franchise holders in the various territories.

Allied Aid to Production Group Is Seen Likely

(Continued from page 1)

and that numerous story properties, stars, directorial and technical personnel and plant facilities are available. Confirmation of these particulars was lacking, however.

Facing the postwar problems of surplus equipment and competition for motion pictures from other forms of amusement, the Allied board decided to seek the cooperation of other industry elements and directed Allied president Martin G. Smith to appoint a committee of five for the purpose. This group, still to be named, probably will include distributor and circuit representatives.

Assure Tax Revenue

A plan for a new method of numbering tickets, designed to assure the Government of proper tax revenue, was presented by a committee including Col. H. A. Cole of Texas, chairman; Yamins, and Sidney E. Samuelson of Eastern Pennsylvania Allied, who were instructed to seek the opinions of all local exhibitors and then act without making a further report.

Another new committee to be appointed by Smith will coordinate the activities of the various units in collecting sport equipment for convalescent service men.

A discussion of "V-Day" resulted in the agreement that theatres should cooperate in the plans of local boards of trade in their areas. A report on functions of the War Activities Committee was given by Harry H. Lowenstein of New Jersey.

Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, speaking at the convention banquet, stressed the need for cooperation with the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and other unaffiliated units. Other banquet speakers included Smith, Myers, and Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, who earlier had explained the new consent decree amendments sought by the Department of Justice.

At the meeting's final session, Friday afternoon, the board passed a resolution condemning distributors for asking prices for reissues comparable to those asked for current features.

Resolution's Preamble

The resolution's preamble asserted that the "declared purpose" of the distributors in reissuing was to relieve the product shortage and make pictures available to exhibitors "at prices they could afford to pay." Reissues, it added, have had their production costs written off, so that the only costs properly chargeable are those of printing, distribution, advertising and royalties.

Myers noted the "pious" attitudes of distributors last season and mentioned that, probably in spite of good intentions, M-G-M, for example, is asking high rentals for such pictures as "Waterloo Bridge."

The site for the next Allied board meeting was not decided upon because film rentals and the activities of Allied's national caravan took up the directors' full time at the closing session.

PCCITO Tie With Allied 'Inevitable'

(Continued from page 1)

ing to an executive committee decision announced here by Abram F. Myers, general counsel, and Hugh Bruen, PCCITO executive, said his organization might be host to Allied in Southern California after the war.

If such an affiliation were to materialize, it would give Allied representation for the first time on the Coast, where PCCITO has five units; Independent Theatres Owners of Southern California and Arizona, Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California, Independent Theatre Owners of Oregon, and Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska.

Unofficial comments at the meeting also indicated that the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York likewise may join Allied. Jessie Stern, UIE president, was in attendance. Allied has never had an affiliated unit in New York.

N. Y. Industrialist To Produce Three

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—William Wilder, New York industrialist, announced his intention to produce three features for undesignated major release, the first being "Great Flamerion," to star Eric Von Stroheim.

Dismisses Levey Suit Against WB

A $500,000 suit filed by Ethel Levey, first wife of the late George M. Cohan, against Warner Brothers, in which she claimed her privacy was violated in the Warner film, "Yankee Doodle Dandy," based on the life of Cohan, was dismissed at the weekend by Federal Judge William Bondy here.

Judge Bondy ruled that secenes from the film "may hurt plaintiff's feelings, but they do not violate her rights of privacy." Miss Levey's name was not mentioned in the film. Her attorney, Harry H. Oshrin, stated that the issues involved had never been tried before and that the decision would be appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Industry Praised for Yeshiva Scholarships

Reporting that the film industry's campaign to raise funds for Yeshiva College has assured 22 scholarships this year, Samuel Levy, chairman of Yeshiva's board of directors, has expressed his gratification in a report to George J. Schaefer, chairman of the motion picture committee.

After commending the committee as a whole, Levy paid personal tribute to Schaefer, who has headed the scholarship drive five times.

Barnett at Airport

Massce Barnett Co., film shippers, has opened an office at La Guardia Air Field.

Newest Reels Tell Full Paris Story

The five newsreels for tomorrow's release, like those of last Thursday, are being devoted entirely to the liberation of Paris, digging back farther into the history of the past four years than did the first films from the French capital and also bringing the story more up to date, with the triumphant parade of massed American infantry down the Champs Elysees featured at the climax.

As screened here at the weekend by Universal, Paramount and M-G-M newsreels, this second treatment of the story lacks the concentrated impact of the first subjects, last week, but it offers the same excitement to those who missed the original, and some interesting additions for those who see both.

'Underground' Footage

From the footage shot by 'underground' cameraman Gaston Madru throughout the Nazi occupation, a few opening scenes have been selected, notably German officers attending the races and Pierre Laval arriving from a Berlin conference. Then, after a jump to a few minutes of thrilling sniping during the FFI uprising, the film dwells upon General Charles De Gaulle and reaches its best with the bloody roundup of Nazis who fired at him from the spire of Notre Dame. Views of the crowd scattering in terror at this point are especially impressive. Notable, too, is the visit of General Dwight Eisenhower, who flashes a quite photogenic smile.

This reel, cut from 15,000 feet of film supplied by the Signal Corps and the newsreel pool, has been held to the customary 750-foot length.

2nd NSS Meeting in Chicago This Week

CHICAGO, Sept. 10.—Second of the National Screen Service regional meetings will open in Chicago, Friday, Sept. 16, for a three-day session that will be attended by 75 members of the sales staff from the Central Midwest, and Southwest exchanges. The meeting is the highlight of the "George Dembow Tribute," which "sparks" the opening of the new season. First of three NSS regionals was held in New York at the weekend.

National Screen Service offices to be represented by salesmen and branch managers at the Chicago meeting follow: Chicago, Dallas, Des Moines, Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, St. Louis.

Dembow, vice-president, in charge of sales, will again preside, outlining post-war plans, streamlining of sales policy and exploitation plans for the new season.

Goldstein Honored, Leaving for Coast

Jack Goldstein, who recently resigned as publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox, will leave tomorrow for Beverly Hills, Cal., for a two-week vacation, after which he will announce his new plans.

On Friday his office staff gave him a farewell buffet luncheon, at which he was presented with a silver lighter.

They all love SAN DIEGO



Variety says: "Should do sturdy biz, especially where properly sold as a whacky, laugh bell-ringer. It'll pay off in satisfied patrons where given that extra bally lift . . . Crisp dialog, screw-ball situations and an overall sense of comedy are evident in nearly all sequences."

Film Daily says: "Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano deserve a bow for turning out a delightful comedy that will win immediate plaudits wherever it is shown. The film, directed by Reginald Le Borg with high competence, is a succession of laughs, the players landing in one mirth-provoking situation after another. The film owes a big debt to its cast, every member of which performs with spirit, giving of his best . . . The exhibitor will be playing it safe with this one."

Showmen's Trade Review says: "You need not hesitate to endorse the picture, it will back you up . . . It will delight."

The Exhibitor says: "As escapist material this should hold its own . . . with plenty of laughs and a nice pace."

LOVE YOU



Daily Variety says: "Universal has a money picture in SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU. Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, both as producers and writers, drew heavily upon zany comedy situations to put it over, and with Reginald Le Borg's direction falling into line entire cast headed by Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton and Edward Everett Horton fully aware of their opportunities, feature is sock entertainment, calculated to hit handsome mark at box-office."

Hollywood Reporter says: "SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU is the kind of movie that people go back to see more than once. As a matter of simple fact, SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU comes dangerously close to being Academy Award material, for it has all of the charm, zany gayety and greatness that made boxoffice smashes out of IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT and YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU."

JON HALL · LOUISE ALLBRITTON

San Diego I Love You

EDWARD EVERETT HORTON · ERIC BLORE

BUSTER KEATON · FLORENCE LAKE · IRENE RYAN

Screen Play by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano
From a Story by Ruth McKenney & Richard Bransten
Directed by REGINALD LE BORG • Produced by MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE



THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

Coast Filming In Another Low, Now at 41

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—The shooting index has fallen to 41, the lowest number of features in production to be recorded in six months. Eight pictures started and 12 were completed. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Raiders of Quanto Basin," "Tonight We Dance."

Started: "Counterattack," with Paul Muni, Marguerite Chapman, Larry Parks, Edgar Buchanan, Erik Rolf.

Shooting: "Song of Tahiti," "Together Again" (formerly "A Woman's Privilege").

M-G-M

Finished: "Gentle Annie," "Dr. Red Adams."

Started: "Hold High the Torch," with Elizabeth Taylor; "Lassie," with Edmund Gwenn, Selena Royle, George Cleveland.

Shooting: "Women's Army," "Telltale Hands," "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock," "Anchors Aweigh," "Son of Lassie."

Monogram

Started: "Mystery Mansion," with Sidney Toler, Mantan Moreland, Ralph Lewis, Hardie Albright, Dorothy Granger, Edwin Luke.

Paramount

Shooting: "Salty O'Rourke," "Kitty."

PRC

Finished: "Hollywood and Vine," "Oath of Vengeance" (formerly Untitled Buster Crabbe).

RKO Radio

Shooting: "China Sky," "Pan-Americana," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "Thoroughbreds," "Next Comes Love" (Sydney Williams).

Started: "The Great Stagecoach Robbery," with Bill Elliott, Bobby Blake, Alice Fleming; "Grissly's Millions," with Virginia Gray, Paul Kelly, Elisabeth Risdon, Paul Fix.

Shooting: "The Big Bonanza," "Lake Placid Serenade."

United Artists

Finished: "The Great John L" (Crosby).

Started: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand" (Bronston), with Zachary Scott, Betty Field, J. Carrol Naish, Beulah Bondi, Percy Kilbride.

Shooting: "High Among the Stars" (Rogers); "Brewster's Millions" (Small); "The House of Dr. Edwardes" (Vanguard).

Universal

Finished: "Accent on Rhythm," "Enter Arsene Lupin" (formerly "Arsene Lupin").

Started: "The Fugutive," with Gloria Jean, Alan Curtis, June Vincent, Vivian Austin, Samuel S. Hinds, Minna Gombell.

Shooting: "Jungle Captive," "Can't Help Singing."

Warners

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Nobody Lives Forever."

Independents

Finished: "Mom and Dad" (Associated Film Producers).

Shooting: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank).

U. S. Sees 43,066 Houses Open To Hollywood

(*Continued from page* 1)

the world, of which 12,685 were in Germany, Italy, Japan and the countries then under Nazi control. In the intervening four years, another 9,790 theatres fell under German influence in Europe and 1,628 houses in the Far East fell to Japanese influence. At the beginning of this year, Germany still controlled 17,585 theatres in Europe and Japan controlled 3,503 theatres in the Far East.

Estimates 86,082 Theatres

All told, Golden estimated that there were 86,082 theatres throughout the world on Jan. 1, 1944, or 6,953 more than on Jan. 1, 1940. His figures on houses potentially available for American pictures did not include the 4,013 operating in Italy in 1940 because of lack of information as to how many have become available to American distributors since Allied occupation.

Although the 18,000 exhibition places of the Soviet Union are included, the number of houses available in Europe for American films at the beginning of this year was placed at 30,066, with an estimated seating capacity of 18,619,232.

In Latin America, there were 6,850 theatres with a capacity of 4,085,572, representing an increase of 1,443 houses during the last four years. In the Far East there were 3,640 theatres, while in the Near East there were 179, in Africa, 991, and in the Atlantic Islands, 70.

SOPEG to Step Up Film Union Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the fifth convention of UOPWA, which adjourned at the Hotel Bellevue-Stratford in Philadelphia at the weekend.

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, is the UOPWA local in the film industry and presumably it will endeavor to also organize "white collar" workers in radio.

Plans were announced at the convention for a national salary policy conference to be held following the CIO convention this Fall, to take up "the acute economic problems of white collar workers." Lewis Merrill, president of the CIO "white collar" union, said that the UOPWA is prepared to to initiate a wide organizing campaign among "white collar" workers.

Hugo A. Hoefle Dies

ROCHESTER, Sept. 10.—Hugo A. Hoefle, head of the professional section of Eastman Kodak for 11 years before his retirement in July, 1942, died here at the weekend at the age of 76. He entered the photograph business in 1888 with the E. and H. T. Anthony Co.

To Close on 'V-Day'

CHICAGO, Sept. 10.—Arthur Schoenstadt, president of Schoenstadt and Sons, has announced that his circuit will close on V-Day. He is already running trailer announcements in 10 local theatres.

Canada Business Up 50% Since the War

Theatre business in Canada is booming, averaging some 50 per cent better than in pre-war years, Max Chic, secretary-treasurer of Artkino of Canada, declared here on a visit. First-runs which were barely getting by prior to the war, he said, are sharing in the general boom. A recent report by the Canadian Government revealed that theatre grosses, exclusive of amusement taxes, were $52,567,989 last year, more than double those in 1933.

Price Restrictions

Chic, here to view new Artkino product, said that theatre ceiling prices imposed by the Wartime Price and Trade Board forbade the showing of Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and 20th-Fox's "The Song of Bernadette" at advanced roadshow prices. Russian films' business in Canada has expanded more than 50 per cent since the war, Chic said, from small-scale distribution prior to the war. Unlike this country, the Canadian executive said, Russian films are shown in major situations in regular houses, and are not limited to "art" houses. Russian films receive an average of from 75 to 200 playdates. Artkino is now distributing in Canada through Monogram, he said, having changed over from Empire-Universal.

Although Canadian production is limited to government films and one French-language producer, France Films, some American companies are considering establishing studios in British Columbia, described as an ideal location for outdoor shooting, he said.

Mono. Reacquires Oklahoma Franchise

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—Monogram reacquired the Oklahoma franchise from Carr Scott, who will operate as district manager, taking temporary charge pending a new managerial appointment, it was disclosed at the weekend. This gives Monogram fully owned exchanges in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Des Moines, Minneapolis and Omaha, while Seattle and Portland are half-owned. W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, said the company has its own offices in 37½ percent of revenue producing territory in the United States. He said no further moves for exchange acquisition now impend.

'Arsenic' Sets New Record for Strand

Warners' "Arsenic and Old Lace" set a new all-time house record at the Strand Theatre here in grossing approximately $73,000 during the week ended last Thursday night. The previous record holder at the Strand was "Destination Tokyo," which had the benefit of New Year's Eve patronage.

Comm. Zukor in Town

Lt. Comm. Eugene Zukor, son of Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of Paramount, was in New York over the weekend for a two-day meeting of Army and Navy officials. Lt. Comm. Zukor, formerly in charge of Navy public relations in Los Angeles, has been placed in charge of all Navy entertainment, with headquarters in Washington.

Cowdin Sees Open Markets For U.S. Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

***Picture Daily* at the weekend, Cowdin said, "I am confident that many of barriers to the American motion picture industry will be removed or modified so as to insure full exhibition of American motion pictures in foreign countries and in due course we will receive our accumulated revenues."**

Cowdin stressed that a free interchange of all products, including motion pictures, among the countries of the world is to be one of the objectives of the peace. He discounted the necessity of this or any other industry having representation at the peace talks that will follow the end of the hostilities, believing that sound economic necessity of all countries will bring about a fuller understanding of each and "a happy solution."

Universal's net profit for the year ending Nov. 1 will be about the same as that of last year, Cowdin said. The company's consolidated net profit for the year ended Oct. 30, 1943, was $3,759,963, equivalent to $6.57 per common share, after all charges, including Federal income and excess profits taxes.

Sheridan Sees New Far East Markets

Extensive new postwar markets in the Far East for Hollywood films was predicted at the weekend by Ann Sheridan, in an interview on her return here from a USO tour of Allied encampments in the China-Burma-India theatre of operations.

Miss Sheridan said that natives were enthusiastic spectators at shows in which American film stars appeared and indicated interest in American motion pictures.

Jackie Miles, a master of ceremonies and a member of Miss Sheridan's unit, stated that the boys in the C-B-I theatre were most enthusiastic over USO shows which featured Hollywood film stars.

Gen. Stilwell's Assurance

Only three USO units have toured the C-B-I circuit due to difficulties of transportation over the Himalayas, but General Joseph Stilwell declared before Miss Sheridan's outfit left that he would secure air transportation in the future for any actor volunteering to play the "circuit," now that his officers have realized how important their appearance is to the fighting forces.

Motion pictures are screened almost daily and enthusiasm for them is very high among the troops. Among films playing at the time the troupe left was "Doughgirls." Miles declared prints were in good condition but equipment was not of the best due to the lack of repair facilities and repair men.

Others in the Sheridan unit were Ben Blue, Ruth Denas and Mary Landa. Miss Sheridan will vacation before returning to work for Warners on the Coast in October.

UA Assigns 31 to 'SYWA' Premieres

(Continued from page 1)

ring on promotions for the new season's product of UA producers.

Each key-city engagement will be handled by a field team which will concentrate on newspaper and radio publicity and both local and national tie-ups. Later the field men, under the supervision of Pollock and Rex Williams, UA exploitation director, will individually handle other openings, assisted by local representatives.

First Teams

Among the first teams to handle early key city openings are the following: In Atlanta, Robin Harris, William Lewis, Hy Daab; in Pittsburgh, Bob Goodfried, Robert Cooper, David Levy; Washington, Bernie Kamber, Joe Roberts, David Levy, Rudolph Block; Nashville, William Lewis, Robin Harris; Boston, Phil Engel; Dayton, Bob Goodfried, Tony McLane; St. Louis, Bert Shopenn, Milton Crandall; Baltimore, Charles Shaw, Bernie Kamber; Providence, Phil Engel; Cleveland, E. C. Pearson, Bob Goodfried; Akron, E. C. Pearson, Bob Goodfried; New Orleans, William Lewis, Robin Harris; Harrisburg, Tony McLane, Milton Crandall; Reading, Fred Marshall, Milton Crandall; Cincinnati, Louis Allemann, Leo Trainor; Springfield, Mass., Al Gorson; Wilmington, William Healy, Milton Crandall.

In addition to the teams the following will be assisted by local representatives in handling openings: Claud Morris will handle Kansas City and Indianapolis; George Fishman, Columbus, Buffalo; David Polland, Toledo, Canton; "Chick" Evans, Louisville, Evansville; Phil Engel, Syracuse, Worcester; William Healy, Norfolk; E. C. Milburn, Richmond; Max Abramson, Bridgeport; Fred Marshall, Hartford; Robert Cooper, New Haven; David Kahn, Norwich; Lew Maren, Houston; Eddie Bonns, Memphis; Al Gorson, Rochester; Paul Blaufox, Asbury Park; Roy F. Castleman, London, Canada.

'Way' $15,000 Over Par in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 10.—Weather turned hot again, although theatres continue to do good business generally. The Newman, with "Going My Way" in its fourth week, kept up to last week's high of around $25,000. The Midland did fairly well with "The Seventh Cross," plus "One Mysterious Night," with around $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 5:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)
"The Seventh Cross" (MGM)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Song of Nevada" (Rep.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,600).

Review

'Leave It to the Irish'

(*Monogram*)

JAMES DUNN and Wanda McKay romp through a hasty-tasty mystery comedy that is short on crimes and crime solutions but long on hilarity and it is likely that the less demanding patrons who go in for this modest type of fare will have as much fun as the stars do.

The screenplay, by Tim Ryan and Eddie Davis, involving an Irish cop who turns private detective and gets involved in a murder committed with a gun borrowed from him and has all sorts of trouble with Dick Purcell, another Irishman and police official, is a story which is a bit hard to follow. But it is interrupted so often for broad farce scenes, like a bedroom mix-up involving Barbara Woodell, that it makes little difference who killed who, or why.

Lindsley Parsons produced, William Beaudine directed, for pace and laughter, and Ralph Lewis of radio fame makes his first Monogram appearance in a night club sequence.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."*

TOM LOY

*"G" denotes geneal classification.

Berge Cites Effect Of Zeiss Cartel

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—The Department of Justice has been presenting testimony to a Senate military sub-committee about the cartel situation, and according to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, a cartel between the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co. and the German optical firm of Carl Zeiss had resulted in giving American military information to Germans and had helped nullify disarmament provisions of the Versailles Treaty.

M. Herbert Eisenhart, president of Bausch and Lomb, replied in Rochester that the agreement with Zeiss had contributed "to Allied victories all over the world and will hasten the defeat of the Axis."

Examination of Zukor To Be Resumed Today

Pre-trial examination of Adolph Zukor, chairman of Paramount's board of directors, in the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies will be resumed today in the offices here of Hays, Podell and Schulman, plaintiff's attorneys, following a recess since Wednesday.

When Zukor's examination is concluded, Barney Balaban, Paramount president, is scheduled to testify, followed by Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, who returned at the weekend from his Summer visit on the Coast.

Alperson to Make 6; 20th-Fox Distributes

(Continued from page 1)

cial features to be made over a period of three years, the first of which will be "Black Beauty."

Alperson is a veteran in the industry, having held various posts of importance with the major companies. In 1936 he was elected president of Grand National Films, while in 1938 he was appointed vice-president and general sales manager of Grand National Pictures. He resigned the same year. In 1941 he became general manager of film buying for RKO Theatres, and in 1942 general manager of the circuit.

Seeks WMC's Aid to Stop Phila. Building

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 10.—Legal action will be taken against the builders of the theatre being constructed in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia by David Shapiro, for failure to heed a War Manpower Commission order to halt the project on the grounds that it was an unnecessary waste of manpower.

Claude O. Lanciano, regional WMC attorney, was directed to institute the action when compliance officers found the project going in full force in defiance of an order issued the day previous by Frank L. McNamee, regional WMC director.

Shapiro to Distribute Films Independently

Irvin Shapiro, who resigned as general manager of Film Classics last week, is setting up his own office here and is seeking product with which to enter the independent distribution field, it was learned here at the weekend.

Meanwhile, for the present, George Hirliman, Film Classics president, is said to have made no decision of a a successor to Shapiro, whose duties have been divided up between L. E. Goldhammer, vice-president and general sales manager; Eugene Arnstein, comptroller, and Maurice Livingston, head of the foreign department, all of whom recently joined the company.

Pep Club Outing Set

The Paramount Pep Club of the home office will conduct a boat ride and picnic at Bear Mountain next Saturday. The program will include a softball game and other prize contests. The committee in charge of the outing, the first to be held in several years, includes Irving Singer, Al Sicignano, Ray Fisher, J. L. Brown and Dick Bennett.

Complete 20 Video Shorts

Television Pictures, affiliate here of Hollywood Pictures, reports the completion of 20 short subjects made for television broadcasts, each of three-minute length. Among these are Lena Horne, Ted Williams and his orchestra and Del Casino, vocalist.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Sept. 10

GINGER ROGERS, Lana Turner, Walter Pidgeon and Van Johnson have been set for the stellar spots in "Weekend at the Waldorf" at M-G-M, which Robert Z. Leonard will direct for producer Arthur Hornblow, Jr. . . . Paramount has assigned Darryl Hickman to a featured role in "Salty O'Rourke." . . . John Alvin, currently working in "God Is My Co-Pilot," at Warners, has had his contract renewed.

•

"None So Blind," a novel recently acquired by RKO Radio from Mitchell Wilson, has been assigned to Val Lewton for production. . . . Upon completion of "The Great John L.," William L. Pierce, Jr., will leave Bing Crosby Productions, where he has held the post of director of publicity and advertising. . . . Anthony Quinn will have a featured role in "Where Do We Go from Here?," at 20th Century-Fox.

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Walter Lantz, "Cartunes" producer, who releases through Universal, contemplates establishing a studio in Mexico City to make subjects aimed especially at the Latin-American market. . . . Paramount has borrowed Spring Byington from M-G-M for the role of Gail Russell's mother in "Salty O'Rourke." . . . PCA has purchased "Escape from Beauty," Peter Paul O'Mara story which recently appeared as a serial in *Collier's*. . . . Barbara Brown has had her Warner contract renewed. . . . Paul Kelly has been signed by Monogram for the male lead opposite Kay Francis in "Divorce.". . . James E. Swift has joined the Selznick-Vanguard publicity department, succeeding Ted Wick in charge of radio activities.

•

Roger Pryor has been signed by producers William Pine and William Thomas for a lead in their next Paramount picture, "High Man.". . . William Eythe has been cast in the romantic male lead in 20th Century-Fox's forthcoming production, "Colonel Effingham's Raid.". . . Paramount has assigned Bing Crosby to "Duffy's Tavern," the picture to be built around the well-known radio show. . . . Sara Allgood will have an important part in M-G-M's "The Valley of Decision.". . . On completion of her assignment in Columbia's "Tonight We Dance," Jeff Donnell will take a leading role in "Eadie Was a Lady.". . . James S. Burkett is having difficulty filling the title role of his "Tugboat Annie" series for Republic release.

•

Historic Los Angeles landmarks are being reproduced on two major lots. At Warners, the old Los Angeles Plaza is being recreated for scenes in "Nobody Lives Forever." At M-G-M, a reproduction of Olvera Street, famed Mexican quarter, will be used in "Anchors Aweigh." . . . Betty Hutton will star in a musical titled "Too Good to Be True," which Harry Tugend will write and produce for Paramount. . . . Herman Millakowsky is preparing three features for Republic: "Melody and Mystery," "Girls in the Big House," and "Ghost Comes Home."

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and
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VOL. 56. NO. 50 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1944 TEN CENTS

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Para. to Spend Millions to ImproveStudio

Enlargements Will Cost 3½ to 10 Millions

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Having abandoned long-standing plans for the construction of an entirely new studio, Paramount is faced with the need to relieve congestion at its Marathon St. plant. Studio officials have been preparing studies for some time, but it is up to New York executives to determine what the improvements are to be and the extent to which they are to go when building materials become available.

One estimate available here is that anywhere from $3,500,000 to $10,000,000 could be spent in modernizing the present lot, but no one at the studio will hazard any estimate of the final program.

Paramount needs new office space and, where possible in view of restric-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Million for Mono. Studio Expansion

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Monogram is finalizing plans for postwar studio improvements to cost more than $1,000,000, according to Trem Carr, executive director. The program is to be launched as soon as current restrictions on materials are lifted.

Carr reports that Monogram is acquiring a substantial amount of additional property on Hoover St. and Commonwealth Ave. This will afford total studio space almost a square

(*Continued on page 4*)

Murphy to Succeed Cagney as SAG Head

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—George Murphy will be elected president of the Screen Actors' Guild, succeeding James Cagney, at the annual meeting next Sunday. Murphy is running without opposition for that office and will serve one year.

Unopposed, too, are Paul Harvey, for first vice-president; Walter Abel, second vice-president; Laraine Day, third; Lucile Gleason, recording secretary, and Russell Hicks, treasurer,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Reagan Reports Para. 26-Year Record

The 26th annual "Paramount Week," observed Sept. 3-9, produced the largest volume of business in the United States and Canada for any single week in the history of the company, according to Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Business during the seven days was 63 per cent above "Paramount Week" of 1943, which itself established a 25-year record for the company, Reagan said.

Schine Sells 4 Houses On Eve of Trial

BUFFALO, Sept. 11.—Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., has sold four theatres to Charles Hayman of Niagara Falls, Federal Judge John Knight was informed today in Federal Court here by Willard S. McKay, Schine's attorney, who said the deal had been completed Saturday.

The sale is in line with the Goverment's insistence that the Schine interests divest themselves of several theatres, and for which the Department of Justice is prosecuting an anti-trust action.

The theatres are: the State and Appalachian Theatres, Appalachia, Va.;

(*Continued on page 7*)

See No Early End of Raw Film Control

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.——The end of the war in Europe will not be the end of control of raw film stock as it is expected to bring the release of iron, steel and other materials, it is now disclosed by officials present at the meeting here last Friday between the film companies and Lincoln W. Burrows, chief of the photographic section of the War Production Board.

The officials, emphatic in their warnings to thet companies, insist that raw stock control must be maintained for some time although allocations may be increased as the supply and demand improves.

Sufficient film has been saved by steps already taken to render unneces-

(*Continued on page 7*)

New Production for Australia Planned

Consideration is being given to plans for an extensive postwar production program by Cinesound of Sydney, Australia, it was revealed here yesterday by Norman Rydge,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Group Selling Permissible Under Decree

Distributor and Exhibitor Must Mutually Agree

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—It will be possible to sell groups of any total under the Justice Department's decree proposals **provided the distributor and exhibitor voluntarily and mutually agree they want that kind of deal, and provided there is no forcing by distributors,** Wendell Berge declared today. What the Department opposes is compulsion exercised by the distributor on the exhibitor. What it does not oppose, he said, is the intention on the exhibitor's part to buy more than one at a time. In reply to a question, Berge acknowledged theatremen, therefore, could buy five "or 50" simultaneously if they wanted and if the distributor would sell, but the distributor could not com-

(*Continued on page 4*)

WLB Approves SPG Arbitration Award

The War Labor Board has approved the arbitration award recently handed down by the American Arbitration Association in the long-standing controversy between the Screen Publicists Guild and film home offices here in New York.

Under terms of the approved award, home office publicists employed by Paramount, Warners, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Universal, Columbia, United Artists, RKO Ser-

(*Continued on page 6*)

LeRoy Head of Own Producing Company

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Mervyn Le Roy will produce and direct exclusively for Arrowhead Productions, Inc., new company launched by LeRoy, as chairman of the board, and New York attorney Arnold M. Grant as president, Grant told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today. The company plans several for early production, and will concentrate on new writing and directing talent, Grant said.

LeRoy's first is undetermined, and will be made after he completes "The Robe" for RKO.

Exhibitors to Map Sixth War Loan Strategy Today

The "grand strategy" of the Sixth War Loan "high command" will be plotted today at the Hotel Astor, here, with nine of the top independent exhibitors from as many different points convening with national drive chairman Harry Brandt, publicity director John Hertz, Jr., War Activities Committee officials, distributor chairman Ned E. Depinet, and U. S. War Finance director, Ted R. Gamble.

The nine co-chairmen of the so-called "toughest war loan," scheduled for November-December, are: William J. Crockett, president, MPTO of Virginia; Hugh Bruen, treasurer, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; Jack Kirsch, president, Theatre Owners of Illinois;

(*Continued on page 6*)

Capstaff Awarded Progress Medal

John G. Capstaff of Eastman Kodak, Rochester, has been awarded the Progress Medal for 1944 by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, it was announced here yesterday by E. A. Williford, secretary of the SMPE. The award was for Capstaff's pioneering in black-and-white and color cinematography.

The citation and medal will be presented Oct. 17 at the 56th semi-annual banquet at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Personal Mention

WILL H. HAYS, MPPDA president, has returned from his Summer visit to Hollywood.

•

HERBERT OCHS, Ohio exhibitor, announces the marriages of his daughters, PATRICIA and MARILYNN, the former to FLIGHT OFFICER PETER HILL at Fresno, Cal., and the latter to LIEUT. EARL SCHERFFIUS at Tampa, Fla. MRS. HILL was a theatre operator in Burton, Ohio.

•

HARRY HUNTER, Paramount managing director for Australia and New Zealand, has arrived here from Sydney for conferences with JOHN W. HICKS, JR., president of Paramount International Films, and GEORGE WELTNER, vice-president.

•

JAMES J. MURPHY, JR., assistant executive director of the motion picture arbitration system, is at home here with a broken ankle. LOUISE FARRELL, his secretary, returned yesterday from a two-week vacation.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western division sales manager, is in San Francisco, and will visit Denver and Chicago before returning to New York next week.

•

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, arrived here yesterday following an extended stay on the Coast.

•

WILLIAM J. HEINEMAN, general sales manager for SAMUEL GOLDWYN, has returned here from a business trip to Washington.

•

LOU BROWN, publicity director for Loew's Theatres, Boston, is in Hartford on business this week.

•

JOSEPH QUITTNER of the Quittner and Perakos circuit, has returned to Hartford from a New York trip.

•

ANGELLA CORRADO, assistant manager of Loew's Poli, Hartford, is vacationing in New York.

Sgt. Gene Arneel in Memphis Hospital

Sergeant Gene Arneel, former member of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY editorial staff here, who was wounded in action in Italy, has been returned to the United States for treatment at Kennedy General Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. Arneel underwent several months of treatment for severe shrapnel wounds at Army hospitals in Italy before being returned. He arrived at a Southern port a week ago.

Shirley Meets the Press

Trade press editors and representatives yesterday met Shirley Temple at a reception in the Rainbow Room atop the RCA Building in Radio City.

Schines Open 2-Day Post-war Meeting

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 11.—A general meeting of the Schine Circuit's home office and field executives will be held here tomorrow and Wednesday to discuss plans for the new season and for the post-war plans and will be attended by all zone, district and group managers, and territorial bookers, presided over by J. Myer Schine and Louis Schine.

Those attending will include: Lew Hensler, Lexington, and Harry Stearn, Middlesboro, both Kentucky; Harold Raives, Cleveland; Harry Long, Ashland; Robert Anthony, Piqua, and W. S. Eckard, Bucyrus, in Ohio; C. C. Young, Geneva; Gus DePauw, Newark; Toby Ross, Corning, and G. L. Fowler, Geneva, all in New York; Lee Insley and Marsh Gollner, both of Salisbury, Md.; Reynold Wallach, Cumberland, Md.; Wm. J. Tubbert, Watertown; Jake Weberg, Herkimer; Abe Cohen, Massena; Lou Hart, Gloversville; Harold de Graw, Oneonta; Lou Levitch, Lockport; F. K. O'Kelly, Glens Falls; Harry Unterfort, Syracuse; William Selman, Rochester, and Joe Schwartzwalder, Auburn, all in New York.

One feature of the meeting will be a General Electric television demonstration. A banquet will be held at the Hotel Johnstown, at which the guest speaker will be "Curly" Vadeboncoeur of station WSYR, Syracuse, who recently completed a 25,000 mile trip in the Pacific. After the home office meetings, delegates will attend regional meetings of their respective territories.

Bette Davis Coming For Roosevelt Rally

Bette Davis and Serge Koussevitzky, conductor of the Boston Symphony orchestra, will speak at the 'Rally for Roosevelt' in Madison Square Garden here Thursday evening, when Vice-President Henry Wallace will open his campaign for the re-election of President Roosevelt, it was announced yesterday at Hotel Astor headquarters of the Independent Voters Committee of the Arts and Sciences for Roosevelt, sponsors of the meeting.

Miss Davis, who will fly here from Hollywood for the rally, will address the meeting as the spokesman of those screen and theatrical persons who are members of the committee.

Exchanges and Union Appeal for a Raise

CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—Distributors here have joined Local B-45, IATSE, in filing of an appeal before the local War Labor Board for a rehearing on the 10 per cent wage increase already agreed upon by the employers and the union. The WLB, not recognizing the recent action in Seattle, where a 10 per cent wage increase was approved, granted the members only a $1 weekly boost, retroactive to Oct. 1, 1942.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 11

JOSEPH H. HAZEN, president of Hal B. Wallis Productions, has arrived here to remain about a week for conferences with Hal B. Wallis regarding the schedule of pictures the company will produce for Paramount release.

•

D. A. Doran will reach New York today to assume initial supervision of Columbia's new office established there to line up literary properties for stage and film production. As previously reported, John Gassner heads the play department and Eve Ettinger, stories.

•

S. H. Singer of the Buchanan agency, is on his way East after conferring here on national advertising campaigns for "The Woman in the Window" and "Belle of the Yukon", both International releases via RKO.

•

Sonja Henie resumes her ice show at the Chicago Stadium in November, closing her tour at Madison Square Garden in January. Arthur H. Wirtz, her manager, is back in New York after setting up dates here with her.

•

Gary Cooper is back from a month in the East. His first as a producer-star with his own company functioning under the International Pictures' banner, will be a big-scale Western.

•

Buddy De Sylva's first production under his new Paramount deal will be a comedy, as yet undesignated, starring Bob Hope. Production will start late in January.

•

Nunnally Johnson is en route to New York to attend the wedding there of his daughter, Marjorie, to Pvt. Gene Fowler, Jr. Nuptials will take place at the weekend.

Rodgers and Aaron On West Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—William Rodgers and Edwin W. Aaron arrived here today. Both M-G-M executives are discussing a deal with Fox-West Coast Theatres. Rodgers while here is expected to spend some time at studio conferences. Their stay is planned for about 10 days.

'Cliff' Ross in Marines

Clifford B. Ross, now 2nd Lt., USMC, formerly executive vice president of Ross Federal Service, has reported to the Marine Barracks at Quantico, Va. He is one of three sons of Harry A. Ross, president of the company. The eldest son Densmore, is general manager of Ross.

To Fete Peggy Ryan

Universal yesterday scheduled a trade press luncheon for Peggy Ryan, 'U' player, at the Hampshire House, here, on Thursday.

United Artists Board Meeting Here Today

The regular September meeting of the United Artists board of directors will be held here today, with a new distribution deal for eight Harry Sherman productions, including six more "Hopalong Cassidy" pictures, expected to be approved.

Mary Pickford, who arrived from the Coast at the weekend to seek the film rights for "One Touch of Venus," is expected to be present at the session.

NEW YORK THEATRES

ALLURING! BEWITCHING! EXCITING!
"STORM OVER LISBON"
A Republic Picture
starring
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
RICHARD ARLEN
ERICH VON STROHEIM
with Otto Kruger—Eduardo Ciannelli
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Showplace of the Nation—Rockefeller Center
M-G-M's Production
"DRAGON SEED"
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Spectacular Stage Presentation
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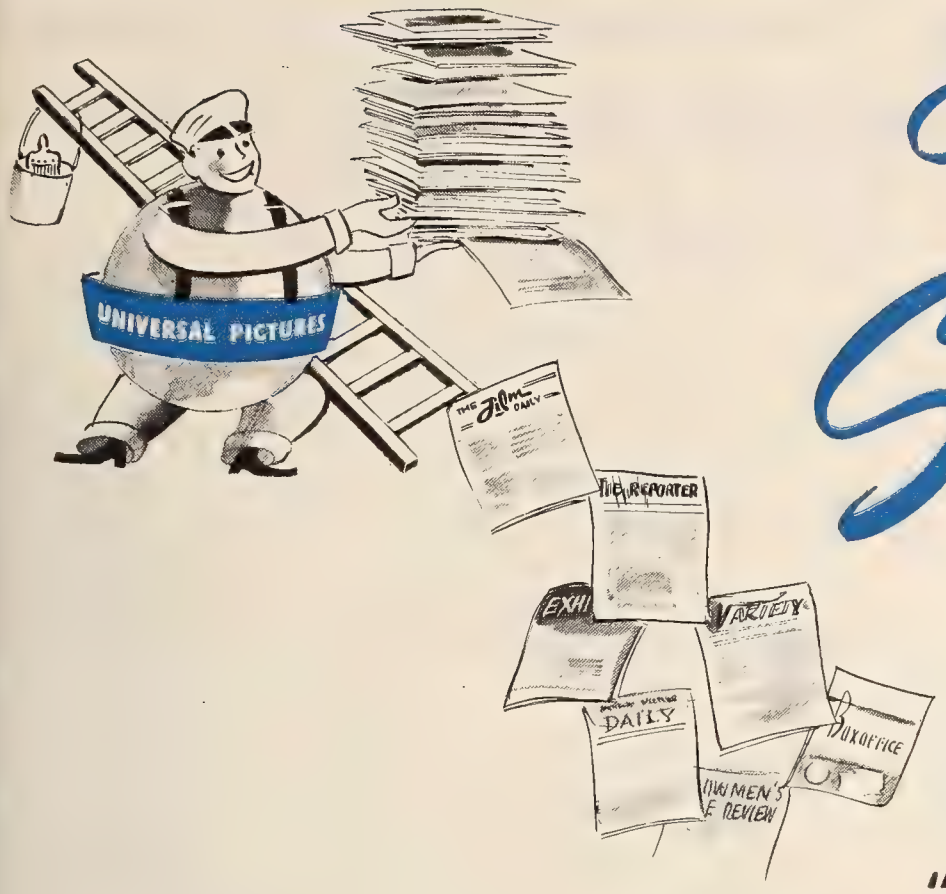
RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Bonita Granville Kent Smith
Jean Brooks Glenn Vernon
'YOUTH RUNS WILD'

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's New Musical
'MEET THE PEOPLE'
LUCILLE BALL
DICK POWELL
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
& HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
TOMMY DIX

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PAY OFF IN THE PACIFIC!
WING AND A PRAYER
"THE STORY OF CARRIER X"
20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46 St.
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'way & 47 St.

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Everybody loves San Diego I Love You

FILM DAILY says:

"Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano deserve a bow for turning out a delightful comedy that will win immediate plaudits wherever it is shown. The film, directed by Reginald Le Borg with high competence, is a succession of laughs, the players landing in one mirth-provoking situation after another. The film owes a big debt to its cast, every member of which performs with spirit, giving of his best . . . The exhibitor will be playing it safe with this one."



Screen Play by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano
From a Story by Ruth McKenney & Richard Bransten
Directed by REGINALD LE BORG • Produced by MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

Para. to Spend Millions to ImproveStudio

(Continued from page 1)

tions on materials, has been remodeling during the war period. It is highly likely that additional stages—there are now 18—will be built to step up current floor area of approximately 200,00 feet to a new total of 300,000 feet, and it may go as high as 350,000. The probability is strong, too, that a new building housing music, scoring and cutting will be constructed when conditions allow.

The company owns three acres flanking the Eastern end of the studio, which now houses the publicity department. This property reaches northward to the wall now separating Paramount acreage from the Beth Olam Cemetery and is used currently for an assortment of purposes, including storage. The likelihood is that new stages, if once determined, will occupy part of this available ground.

Studio's New Acquisitions

The studio also has acquired a one-story building now housing Oblath's restaurant and the Paramount Garage. Located at the intersection of Marathon and North Bronson Streets, it's ultimate use is not yet determined. It may be the site of a new structure housing offices in order to relieve congestion in the existing administration building.

Studio officials also have an extended program on paper covering studio equipment of all description. Like most plants which have been limited in their purchase of materials, Paramount requires an overhauling of rolling stock used in production, such as traveling cranes. Modernization and expansion of its transportation facilities are other requirements.

Million for Mono. Studio Expansion

(Continued from page 1)

block in area, fronting on those streets as well as on Sunset Drive. Plans now being drawn will increase sound stages from the current three to five. One will be 100-by-125 feet and the second will be 75-by-100. These will be built on the Hoover St. frontage. Becauses the land slopes, the space underneath the Eastern end fronting on the street will be devoted to offices, dressing rooms and store rooms. Additionally, a one-story building, 200-by-50 feet, will be built for additional offices and departments. On the Southwest corner will go up buildings for writers, directors and producing units. In that same area will be the electrical department and mill. An expanded commissary will occupy the space now used for the mill and carpenter shop and a new scene dock will be laid out. The plan will double the capacity of Stage 3.

Monogram has just completed six cutting rooms, vaults and splicing rooms.

Cummins to Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Samuel Cummins, general manager of Jewel Productions, is due here on Friday from New York to arrange for the production of some European stories for the states right market.

Group Selling Permissible Under U.S. Decree Action

(Continued from page 1)

pell the exhibitor to buy more than one.

No conflict in interpretation, however, was recognized between Berge's view and Biddle's public statement when the petition for decree changes was filed, that recent supreme court decisions "have made it clear forcing of feature license by the tying of one copyright to another is unlawful." Indirect, and some direct, stress was centered on word "forcing" as constituting an answer to what the Department has in mind.

'Open Door' Policy

The Justice Department's oft-sounded policy of "open door" was repeated again. But Berge made it very clear nibbles or negotiations must spring from signatories. The viewpoint is that having formalized objectives, the Department now sits back waiting for something to happen. If signatories want to negotiate, Berge stated he will listen, of course, but the Department will not entertain any proposals which will tie its hands where divorcement is concerned. The importance of divorcement in the Department's thinking was further emphasized when Berge declared he felt most other film problems engaging him "would wash out" if producer-distributors were compelled to cease operating as exhibitors. However, he added an interesting statement by observing "a few theatres under common ownership, I think, would be OK." He voiced no opinion as to numbers.

Former Decree 'Experimental'

The expired decree was "experimental," he added, saying he believed both sides so appraised it. He admitted the Department's current position is "somewhat ludicrous" because the decree died last November and no restraints on signatories now prevail, therefore. He also admitted the first decree was an "intermediate affair" insofar as independent theatres were concerned and had not worked well. He declared he was well aware the final determination will take a number of years to bring the issue to the Supreme Court. Meanwhile, it was learned elsewhere the Department's overall strategy is to concentrate on the New York petition so that other suits around the nation are unnecessary.

Berge admitted "some kind of clearance" was proper. He described the practice as "restraint," yet called it "reasonable restraint." However, the nature of clearance, the time period it involves, how it fits into the first-run situations and may mitigate against other first-runs and subsequent runs, and nature of elements which define a first-run are all facets of the problem in which the Government is very much interested, he observed.

On a broader base, Berge divulged the general anti-trust policy will again be vigorous. He said the activity will intensify as wartime controls over industries relax and swing toward peacetime economy gathers momentum.

Berge's Purpose

Accompanied by James Borkin, the Department's chief statistician, Berge is here for three days on a dual purpose; one is to make several addresses on post-war and the Justice Department's role in keeping competitive avenues open in the reconversion period. The other is to open the Anti-trust Division office in the Federal Building here. Frederick Rarig is head under James Henderson, chief of the West Coast offices headquartering in San Francisco. Rarig was in the Criminal Division with Berge. He transferred with him to the Anti-trust Division.

Attorney's Availability

Berge has no plans to confer with Hollywood executives on the decree. He will see all comers if time allows which it may not in view of the tight schedule. While the Department is checking into Goldwyn's Reno freezout charges, no discussions with the producer is contemplated. It was learned the FBI checked Reno on Berge's instructions, but activity now has broadened geographically. Whether it will blanket the nation was unanswered, the indication being a preliminary probe will reach wherever conditions warrant. Whether Goldwyn initiated the Government's interest was asked, but went unanswered. No one seemed to recall clearly. Asked to comment on the Arthur-St. Louis situation, Berge declined with "am not familiar with it."

He stated he intends appearing before the Supreme Court this Fall to argue the Crescent Amusement findings.

Murphy to Succeed Cagney as SAG Head

(Continued from page 1)

Lena Horne and Gene Kelly are unopposed for one-year term directorships and Dorothy Tree for a two-year term.

The contest revolves around 11 three-year directorships for which 22 performers are in nomination. They are: Murray Alper, Edward Arnold, Anne Baxter, Roman Bohnen, Charles Boyer, Dane Clark, Richard Conte, Joseph Cotten, Joseph Crehan, Hume Cronyn, Laraine Day, John Garfield, Alan Hale, Porter Hall, Paul Harvey, Rex Ingram, Harpo Marx, Ruth Nelson, Anthony Quinn, Anne Revere, Edwin Stanley and Regis Toomey.

Detitta and Muth to Europe for Movietone

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Arthur Detitta, former West Coast supervisor for Fox Movietone News, is leaving to take charge of the Paris office, it was learned today. He will also supervise Spain, Italy and Portugal, working with Russell Muth, who was appointed Continental European manager for Movietone News.

MPRF Meeting on Rehabilitation

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—The Motion Picture Relief Fund executive board will meet Thursday to hear a subcommittee report on the possible need for a rehabilitation program.

B'way Grosses Off Slightly

Reopening of schools and the falling off in the Summer influx of visitors into the city following the Labor Day weekend is affecting this week's grosses at downtown New York first-runs, although business is generally well on the profit-taking side.

Of new arrivals, "Double Indemnity," at the Paramount, with a stage show featuring Mitchell Ayres and his band and the Andrews Sisters, is headed for an excellent $94,000 on the basis of a terrific first five days' gross of $75,000 ending Sunday night. "Arsenic and Old Lace," with Charlie Barnet and a band stage show at the Strand is expected to register another smash week, after an initial week's record gross of close to $73,000; $34,000 was taken in during the three days ending Sunday night and the second week's figure is expected to reach $66,000.

Of the holdovers, "Since You Went Away," combined with Gene Krupa and band, at the Capitol is showing the best staying power with $80,000 expected for the eighth week on the basis of $46,000 taken in up to Sunday night; the combination will continue. "Wilson," combined with a Fred Waring stage show at the Roxy, is expected to gross about $95,000 on a sixth week following a fifth week's gross of $110,000, which was below early estimates. Two more weeks are set for "Wilson" at the Roxy before it is moved to the Victoria Theatre on Sept. 27. "Dragon Seed" will end its run at Radio City Music Hall tomorrow night with about $100,000 taken in on the eighth and final week. The seventh week's gross of $114,000 was below early estimates. "Casanova Brown," International Pictures' initial production for RKO release, will open at the Music Hall Thursday.

'Kismet's' Record Pace

"Kismet" is continuing a record pace at the Astor with the third week's gross ending last night nearing $40,000. "In Society" is holding up excellently at the Criterion with $25,000 expected on the fourth week; it will continue. "Till We Meet Again" brought about $36,500 in a profitable second week at the Rivoli, but it will make way for "Frenchman's Creek" which opens Sept. 20.

"Wing and a Prayer" will bring about $30,000 combined to the Globe and Gotham with a profitable $18,500 expected at the former theatre and $11,500 at the latter; it, too, will continue. Business at the Hollywood, where "Doughgirls" will complete a second week tomorrow, is quiet, with about $26,000 expected, although the film will continue.

"Youth Runs Wild" is expected to bring the Palace about $17,000 in its second and final week and RKO's "Bride by Mistake" will take over on Friday. A mild $10,000 is expected for "Storm Over Lisbon" in its first week at the Republic and it will continue. The Victoria withdrew "Are These Our Parents?" last Friday after it brought about $2,700 in the final three days of a third week. Monogram's release of W. R. Frank's "Enemy of Women" started at the Victoria Saturday and is expected to bring about $10,000 in its first week. "Soul of a Monster" is expected to bring better than $10,000 in its first week at the Rialto; it will hold.

WANTED!

16,000 patriots to halt complacency on the home front. While our boys are dying over there, American citizens are relaxing their efforts! Production of war materials is slackening! General Eisenhower and his staff have sent frantic messages for more fighting goods! With every victory the public grows more and more indifferent — while the blood of our soldiers runs faster. The Army asks you to place on your screen immediately and to exhibit at *every* show the wonderful, stirring appeal to civilians: "THE WAR SPEEDS UP."

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Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.

Army Wants More Films, Stars for Europe's Peaceday

As soon as the war ends in Europe, and possibly sooner, Hollywood will be called upon for a sharp increase in the number of films and prints for the troops overseas, plus an increased flow of visiting players under the auspices of USO-Camp Shows, Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, director of the Army's Special Services Division, stated here yesterday following two days of meetings at the Harvard Club with civilian leaders in the motion picture, stage, arts, music and library worlds.

Gen. Byron's Report

Kenneth Thomson, chairman of the Hollywood Victory Committee, and Abe Lastfogel, president of USO-Camp Shows, who attended the sessions, both were reported as being "enthusiastic about *trying* to meet the new demands," General Byron declared. He said the industry's free-films gift now ranges between 65 and 70 prints of three new pictures each week and that a stepped-up program would, of course, add to the industry's financial outlay. Camp Shows, according to figures presented at the conference, have furnished some 1,600 people in 302 overseas units.

No estimates have yet been made as to the maximum number of film prints and traveling actors that may be required, General Byron said, explaining that this will depend entirely upon the amount of new recreational facilities requested by the commanding generals in the various theatres of war "when the last shot is fired and the men have a lot more time on their hands." Likewise no time limit is being placed upon the program. It was stressed, however, that entertainment for permanent or semi-permanent armies of occupation is not yet being considered, with the Special Services Division concerned mainly with the period between V-Day and demobilization, calculating that the embarkation of soldiers for America will be a gradual process.

Civilian Consultants

Another feature of the program is the preparation of a list of civilian consultants, who will be prepared to go overseas at the request of the commanding generals.

Howard S. Braucher, president of the National Recreation Association, was vice-chairman of yesterday's meeting, and members of the theatrical section attending, besides Thomson and Lastfogel, included Mrs. Dorothy Rodgers, Writers War Board; Bert Lytell, Actors Equity; Lee Shubert, producer; Barclay Leathem, Western Reserve University; George Heller, American Federation of Radio Artists; Matt Shelvy, American Guild of Variety Artists, and Lawrence Phillips, executive vice-president of USO-Camp Shows.

The call for more camp shows comes as an impetus to the 1944 financial campaign of the New York War Fund, Sept. 20-Nov. 11, and to similar drives of the National War Fund throughout the country.

Additions to the current film gift, the General observed, could not be made without an increased allocation of raw stock, but he indicated that an effort would be made to secure more than is at present available. Lt. Col. Frederick M. Warburg, chief of the entertainment and recreation branch of the Special Services Division, stated that USO-Camp Shows so far have delivered the full amount of stage entertainment sought by the Army.


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Exhibitors to Map Sixth War Loan Strategy Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

John Rugar of the Intermountain Theatres Association; Henry Reeves, president, Texas Theatre Owners; Al Steffes of Allied Theatre Owners of the Northwest; Leo Wolcott, president, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska; Fred Wehrenberg, president, MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois; and Nathan Yamins, chairman of the executive committee of Independent Exhibitors, Boston.

Brandt will introduce Gamble, who will not only address the gathering and present the Treasury's Sixth War Loan aims and objectives, but will also sit in on the exhibitors' discussions. There will be both morning and afternoon sessions, with an agenda that will encompass the entire campaign's tactics. S. H. Fabian, WAC theatres division chief, is to review previous campaigns and place them on display.

Due for examination is the set-up for regional meetings, their scheduling so as to fit in with the plans of distributors, exhibitors and public relations men around the country. Campaign distribution head Ned E. Depinet and Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, are to participate in the discussions.

Hertz, who has been conferring with top industry advertising-publicity executives since his retirement several weeks ago, will offer preliminary suggestions for a campaign book for the drive, with new emphasis on showmanship within the theatre. He will also announce general plans for special trade paper issues. Also on the docket will be an anticipated report from John C. Flinn, WAC Hollywood division coordinator, on the status of his division's program fror the campaign. Flinn, for the last several days, has been conferring with representatives of the various West Coast craft guilds. Others attending today's meeting will be Bill Dasheff, assistant publicity director; Leon J. Bamberger, assistant to Depinet, and WAC representatives Walter Brown and Ed. Schreiber.

O'Donnell, Kennedy and Friedl Return to N. Y.

R. J. O'Donnell, national chairman of the "Fighting Fifth" War Loan campaign; R. M. Kennedy, vice-chairman, and John J. Friedl, campaign director, have arrived in New York in connection with matters concerning reports on the drive.

Schoenstadt Trial Off to Sept. 25

CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—The Schoenstadt Theatres' anti-trust suit hearing scheduled for today was postponed to Sept. 25 at the request of defense attorneys who requested additional time to secure documents which they termed important to the case.

Defendants are Balaban and Katz, Warner Theatres and distributors.

Bioff Case Delayed

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 11.—The tax evasion trial against William Bioff set for hearing today, was taken off the calendar pending the outcome of the appeal of eight convicted Bioff associates to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York.

Loew Toronto Dividend

TORONTO, Sept. 11.—Marcus Loew's Theatres, Ltd., Toronto, operating Loew's Yonge Street and Loew's Uptown, Toronto, has declared a $1.75 dividend for the current quarter on preferred shares.

WLB Approves SPG Arbitration Award

(*Continued from page* 1)

vice Corp., and Marcus Loew Booking Agency will receive a general wage increase of five per cent of the average salary for publicists as of Jan. 1, 1941, for the one-year period starting May 4, 1943, to bring the publicists up to the 15 per cent increase allowable under the Little Steel Formula. Further, merit increases may be granted for the specified 1943-44 period. These are to include the general five per cent increases and are not to exceed the aggregate of $10 per week for those in the publicist and associate publicist categories and five dollars a week for apprentices. All increases are retroactive to the reopening dates of the various contracts.

Minimiums for the various classifications of the publicists are raised to $30-$40 for apprentices; $50-$65 for associate publicists and $70-$90 for publicists. A new classification known as senior publicists is established with a minimum salary of $100 a week.

Under the new two-year contract, all non-wage clauses of the 1942-44 contract which expired May 4, are ordered continued, with the exception that all contracts are to be made uniform and are to include the same expiration date.

The award covers the renegotiation of the wage clause in the SPG contract with the companies for the period of May 4, 1943, to May 3, 1944, as well as the renegotiation of a new contract retroactive to last May 4 and terminating May 3, 1946.

New Production for Australia Planned

(*Continued from page* 1)

managing director of Greater Union Theatres, Ltd., with which Cinesound is associated.

Rydge, who arrived in New York at the weekend for a month's visit, said that production plans under discussion are not sufficiently advanced as yet to permit him to specify the number of pictures which may be made annually. He said, however, that the program would represent an increase over the prewar production activities of Cinesound. The program, he added, will be planned for the home and British markets.

Overabundance of Films

Rydge said that Australian theatres at present are confronted with a problem of an overabundance of films, due largely to the abnormal length of runs of most pictures. American servicemen in Australia account for a large proportion of the increased theatre attendance there and, with it, the extended runs for virtually all pictures. He observed that war pictures are not popular in Australia.

"The public gets enough of the war from newspapers, government films and personal experience," Rydge remarked.

Cinesound's activities at present are confined largely to the production of government sponsored films and a newsreel.

Greater Union's profit for the year ended Aug. 31 established an all-time record for the company, it was disclosed. Earnings figures are being compiled and are to be released within the next few days. The consolidated figures cover Cinesound, British-Empire Films and National Theatre Supply of Australia, as well as Greater Union Theatres. Greater Union was more than $2,000,000 "in the red" when Rydge took over the company five years ago.

Capt. Harold Auten was host to Rydge and trade press representatives at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor yesterday.

FP-C Opens 1st New Theatre in 4 Years

TORONTO, Sept. 11.—President J. J. Fitzgibbons, vice-president R. W. Bolsted and Jules Wolfe, supervisor of construction of Famous Players' head-office here, attended the opening of the Paramount Theatre in St. John's, Nfld., in which FP and Morris A. Milligan, Toronto, have a joint interest. The Paramount is the first theatre to be built in four years under Famous Players auspices because of war conditions.

Milligan is former general manager of Paramount Film Service, Ltd., Toronto, and is the owner of three theatres in Hamilton, Ont., and the Capitol in St. John's.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
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See No Early End of Raw Film Control

(Continued from page 1)

sary any formal cut back in consumption for the remainder of the third quarter, it was disclosed by Burrows, and quotas for the fourth quarter are now being worked out. Burrows said it is expected that the companies will be given the full amounts called for in Limitation Order No. L-178. The new quotas are due to be announced within 10 days. As a result of the disturbing experience of reductions from which the industry has just emerged, however, companies hereafter will be required to keep strictly within their quotas, and if raw stock supplies increase the companies will not be permitted to stock up as they desire, as they did during the early months of the year, but WPB will allocate the excess equitably among the companies on a pro rata basis.

Aspects of the Situation

The current situation is such, it was said, that supply requirements can be met without calling upon the companies to provide the approximately 40,000,000 feet of raw stock, which it had been thought would have to be set aside, but the continuous inventory control, which is hereafter to be exercised will prevent a recurrence of the shortage situation which recently treatened to halt film releases almost entirely.

The decision to take no formal action to cut consumption further was based also on the expectation that new facilities in the Ansco and Eastman plants will come into operation toward the end of the year, further increasing raw stock supplies.

Film Requirements

To meet film requirements for world wide operations, the Army Air Force explains, it has been necessary to set up supply depots at a number of points as close to actual operations as possible, requiring larger inventories than would be needed if the demands could have been met from depots set up in New York and San Francisco from which all theatres of war could be serviced. Military demand, they said, will continue very high until the end of the European war, and then will be reduced only to an extent compatible with the contracted field of operations.

The liberation of Europe also will bring the plans of the overseas branch of the OWI into full play, it was disclosed by Taylor M. Mills of the motion picture bureau of the OWI domestic branch, and will increase the need for raw stock.

The OWI now is engaged in dubbing in a great deal of material in the native language of the various areas which have been, and are to be liberated, designed for the re-education of peoples who for up to five years have been under Nazi rule and continuously fed Nazi propaganda. Another increasing need for raw stock is for the rehabilitation and education pictures to be shown servicemen as they are about to be released, it was brought out.

In the discussion of the industry's situation it was developed that the savings in film accomplished by the companies since the matter was brought to their attention by Burrows some weeks ago, and the short period of third quarter remaining rendered it unnecessary to call upon them now for further cut backs over a period of a few days particularly as the film manufacturers have practically recovered from a Summer slow down.

Industry representatives attending the meeting here included Sidney Kramer and John M. Whitaker, RKO; George Fleitman and Janet Rosenthal, PRC; Walter Cokell, Paramount; Brandt Enos and John R. Wood, March of Time; R. Waltschuler and Walter Titus, Republic; Robert Hilton and H. D. Buckley, United Artists; John J. O'Connor, Universal; Samuel Schneider, Warner Brothers; Tom Conners and Earl Sponable, 20th-Century Fox; William Brennon and Leo Jaffe, Columbia; W. D. Kelly and E. M. Saunders, M-G-M; and John Harrington and Steve Broidy, Monogram.

Review

"When the Lights Go On Again"

(PRC)

Hollywood, Sept. 11

UNDERTAKING with seriousness and understanding to present the problems confronting the shell-shocked soldier and his intimates to whom he returns, Leon Fromkess has turned out a film that opens a new vein of subject material. Peopling his cast with players in the category of James Lydon, Regis Toomey, George Cleveland, Grant Mitchell, Dorothy Peterson, Harry Shannon, Lucien Littlefield and Luis Alberni, Fromkess has given the story the benefits of experienced performances. Starting with an original story by Frank Craven, scripted by Milton Lazarus, and placing the veteran William K. Howard in charge as director, the producer left untaken no steps to guarantee a workmanlike job.

The picture that emerges compares directly with nothing in current releases. Its reception by the customers is, therefore, something to be determined, although there appears no doubt that the 'teen-agers faced with, or having answered the question as to whether to marry in wartime, will eat it up, as it confirms their hunch that the thing to do is marry first and debate the matter afterward.

Lydon plays the soldier who returns, suffering amnesia, and is patiently brought around to the remembering of home and family. It is done partially in flashbacks, but is not too irregular for persons coming in during the picture to find out what it's all about.

Running time, 74 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 15.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

20th Sets 'Darling', 'Noise' Trade Shows

"In the Meantime Darling" and "The Big Noise," two 20th Century-Fox films to be released in block three of the 1944-'45 program, will be trade-shown Sept. 14 in all company exchanges excepting Portland, Ore., and St. Louis where screenings will be held in theatres.

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling" will complete block three, which will be released in October.

Speeding 'War Speeds'

Columbia has released to 648 "A" houses prints of "The War Speeds Up," special War Department short being distributed by the company. The film is being booked under the War Activities Committee's "locked booking system," which insures its appearance, within 60 days, on the screens of all theatres pledged to play films sponsored by the committee.

HVC Plans All-Star Show in Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—The Hollywood Victory Committee approved plans today for an all-star performance Sept. 28 at the Shrine Auditorium for 7,000 key workers in the War Chest Drive starting October 10. Don Ameche will be master of ceremonies. Chairman Charles W. Koerner of the War Chest Drive, has appointed colonels to handle the campaign in individual studios and for crafts and unions. One group will hold its first meeting Tuesday at the Roosevelt Hotel to map plans.

Schine Sells 4 Houses On Eve of Trial

(Continued from page 1)

the Viv, Corbin, Ky., and the Liberty, Pikeville, Ky.

McKay was appearing before the court contesting a move by M. K. Murphy, prospective purchaser of the Appalachia theatres, to have the court compel Schine to accept his offer of $38,274 in cash, and the balance in one and two-year notes, the total price to be $76,548.

"This is the first we have heard of the sale to Hayman," objected Harold L. Schilz, Assistant Attorney General representing the anti-trust division.

U. S. Attorney Neutral

"I am not sure that Schine was in a position to make the sale while Murphy's offer was pending," continued Schilz. He emphasized that the Government was not "approving or opposing" the sale to any particular individual but was motivated solely by a desire to "restore former competitive conditions." Mr. Schilz also raised the point of whether there was any "direct or indirect" connection between Schine and Hayman.

"If Mr. Schilz thinks Mr. Hayman has any connection with Schine, I am willing to—," began McKay, but the Goverment's attorney interrupted to remark that he had no such thoughts but felt duty bound to know all details of the transaction. He quoted the Murphy offer and suggested some information be furnished about the Hayman purchase.

Under the divestiture portion of the consent decree renewed May 15, 1944, Murphy maintains that he is entitled to make an offer as a former owner of the properties. McKay claims that he has forfeited his priority by not acting earlier. Therefore, McKay claimed, Schine's obligation under the order was "to divest ourselves of the theatres," to the highest bidder.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW!

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY

"MRS. PARKINGTON"

M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 Ninth Ave., New York City

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 13 - 2:30 P. M.



Hear the G.I. Nightingale Sing 5 SHOW BOAT HIT TUNES

PRC Pictures, Inc. Presents

Frances LANGFORD ★ Guy KIBBEE

in

"DIXIE Jamboree"

with

EDDIE QUILLAN
Charles BUTTERWORTH
FIFI D'ORSAY
LYLE TALBOT
FRANK JENKS
ALMIRA SESSIONS
LOUISE BEAVERS
BEN CARTER CHOIR

★

Produced by JACK SCHWARZ
Associate Producer
HARRY D. EDWARDS
Directed by CHRISTY CABANNE
Screen Play by SAM NEUMAN
Based on Original Story by LAWRENCE E. TAYLOR

it's Boxoffice!

Frances Langford, looking very beautiful and in excellent voice, as the principal songstress, herself worth the price of admission.
Hollywood Reporter

Tried and true cast provide entertaining picture with showboat background.
Film Daily

Extracts top audience interest throughout. Miss Langford scores heavily.
Variety

General amusement in the comedy plus pleasant music portends entertainment for average audiences.
Showman's Trade Review

"Dixie Jamboree" sends PRC Pictures' new season program off to a fine start.
Film Bulletin

Presented in a refreshing way, with good comedy situations and tuneful music. It packs more entertainment either in music or in comedy than most pictures of this type, and it leaves one in a happy mood.
Harrison's Reports



A PRC SPECIAL

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 51 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1944 TEN CENTS

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$1,000,000 RKO Studio Building Plan

Company Will Have New Stages and Offices

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—RKO Radio studios will be improved at a cost of approximately $1,000,000 as soon as the easing of military requirements permits the necessary materials to be released, Charles W. Koerner, vice-president in charge of production, has informed MOTION PICTURE DAILY. The scheduled improvement is in line with plans being made by virtually all studios.

Principal RKO steps call for a new administration building, possibly on the site of the current structure facing Gower St., or on the site now occupied by radio station KHJ, Los Angeles outlet of the Mutual web. RKO recently acquired the latter property, which faces Melrose Ave. Between the broadcasting station and

(*Continued on page 5*)

Rubens Warns of Drop after 'V-Day'

CHICAGO, Sept. 12.—M. M. Rubens, vice-president of Publix Great States Theatres, here, anticipating a sharp drop in business after "V-Day," has issued instructions to all of his circuit's managers to step-up exploitation activities on all pictures and in all theatres regardless of first, second or third-run policies.

Rubens points out that the shifting of great numbers of workers from one section of a city or county to another during the reconversion period will vitally affect theatre business. "This is not a guess," Rubens emphasizes. "The transition period is slowly but

(*Continued on page 4*)

Bergman West on New 'U' Campaigns

A series of new-product advertising conferences will be held at Universal's Coast studio beginning next Monday, when Maurice A. Bergman of Universal's home office advertising department, and Richard T. Ney of the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency arrive in Los Angeles. They will leave New York Thursday for the studio where they will be joined by Cal Swanson, representative of J. Walter Thompson Co., who has been

(*Continued on page 6*)

Plant Expansion to Cost Disney $100,000

Hollywood, Sept. 12.—Roy Disney, executive vice-president and general manager of Walt Disney Productions, discloses that the company contemplates expansion of its plant facilities at Burbank to include a warehouse for 'props' and a carpenter shop, at a projected investment of $100,000. The studio, he added, will also require new equipment for use in production of combination cartoon and 'live-action' films, exemplified by "Three Caballeros."

Republic's Policy Will be Public's, Says Herbert Yates

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—Although Republic's program of 68, announced in May, stands, Herbert J. Yates declared today, the order in which pictures will be produced will depend upon changing public tastes. Therefore, the program will be determined in quarterly periods, thereby allowing

(*Continued on page 5*)

Keep WAC, Urges Coe

Continuation of the industry's War Activities Committee in the postwar to coordinate industry efforts and to promote public good will was proposed by Charles Francis Coe, special MPPDA counsel, in an interview here yesterday.



Charles Francis Coe

Suggestion of the WAC as a 'Peace Activities Committee,' Coe pointed out that under its auspices all elements of the industry have worked together

(*Continued on page 4*)

Seek Tax Council With WAC Support

Renewed efforts to organize a national exhibitor tax council are being made in exhibitor circles, it was learned here yesterday, with discussions centering around a proposal to

(*Continued on page 5*)

Sixth Drive Seen Vital To Stability

Gamble Seeks Patriotic Film Atmosphere

The motion picture screen was described yesterday as "the most important medium in the nation," by Ted R. Gamble, national Treasury War Finance Director, who called on theatre men to "create the patriotic atmosphere necessary to assure the success" of the Sixth War Loan Drive, Nov. 11-Dec. 7.

Speaking at a meeting of key exhibitor leaders from all parts of the country, called by Harry Brandt, national industry chairman, at the Astor Hotel here, Gamble said, "The coming effort is more than a war loan; it is a tremendous task

(*Continued on page 4*)

Expect 555 Million Feet of Raw Stock

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Final figures on probable 1944 fourth-quarter raw film production indicate an output of 555,000,000 feet, of which 231,000,000 feet, or more, will be required for war purposes, it was disclosed here today by the War Production Board.

The remaining supply, however, will provide the 324,000,000 feet of film needed for film industry operations, although it was warned that if military requirements show a further substantial increase, a cut in consumption may be necessary.

Strict control will be maintained

(*Continued on page 4*)

U. S. May Get Foothold in France Thru Frozen Money

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Sept. 12.—Resurgence of an intense French nationalistic spirit, which is held to be inevitable with France's liberation, may serve to embarrass ultimate negotiations for the release of enormous monetary credits which are expected to be piled up by American distributors as a result of the exhibition in French theatres of Hollywood films by the Office of War Information and the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch, since the invasion, and frozen against the time when it is possible to free this money without prejudicing the position of the franc in the international money market.

Similar credits accumulated by distributors in French North Africa have been refused release by the French Finance Commissariat. Although frozen, the assets are still the property of "foreign" nationals. American companies are seen here to thus have an incentive to eventually use the frozen

(*Continued on page 6*)

Company Heads Will Aid 'Night of Stars'

Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Nate Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Marvin Schenck and Major Albert Warner have accepted honorary co-chairmanships of the producing committee for the "Night of Stars" benefit, to be held at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 14. Proceeds will go to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Robert Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, here, again heads the producing committee, with Louis K. Sidney and Ed Sullivan as active co-chairmen.

No Tie for PCCITO With Allied: Bruen

Hugh Bruen, treasurer of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, stated here yesterday that no affiliation is planned between his organization and Allied States. An official of Allied told the trade press informally at the Allied board of directors meeting at Bretton Woods, N. H., last week that an eventual affiliation of PCCITO with Allied was "inevitable."

In New York yesterday for the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic president, left for Detroit yesterday and will return here on Saturday.

•

ELMER RHODEN, head of Fox Midwest Theatres, Kansas City, has concluded his year's term as county chairman of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation, but continues as a board member. SENN LAWLER, also of Fox Midwest, has been elected vice-chairman of the chapter.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal Eastern sales manager, left yesterday for visits to the Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Buffalo exchanges. He will hold a sales meeting at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, on Friday.

•

RALPH RIPPS, Albany salesman for M-G-M, reports that his son, LIEUT. ROBERT, pilot of an American bomber, missing since April following a flight over France, is safe and in good health.

•

MARTIN MAHER of Loew's Midland, Kansas City, and formerly at the M-G-M Capitol, New York, was married last week in Kansas City to HELEN JOHNSON of Ft. Scott, Kansas.

•

LEDA BAUER, RKO Radio Eastern story editor, left New York yesterday for California for semi-annual conferences with CHARLES W. KOERNER, studio head and other executives.

•

HARRY NOVAK, Warners Argentine manager, has arrived from Buenos Aires for conferences with ROBERT SCHLESS, the company's general foreign manager.

•

LOUIS ASTOR, Columbia circuit sales executive, has left for a several weeks' trip to Chicago, Denver and Los Angeles.

•

ALICE EVANS FIELD, head of the West Coast MPPDA community service department, is visiting the New York office.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, will leave today for an extended trip through the Midwest.

Morrow Leaves WB

Marjorie Morrow, Eastern talent head at Warner Brothers for the past year and a half, has resigned, effective immediately.

Miss Morrow, before joining Warners, was casting director for Columbia Broadcasting here.

DeBra to Speak Tonight

Arthur DeBra, MPPDA director of research, will speak tonight at a preview at the National Arts Club of M-G-M's latest John Nesbitt release, "Grandpa Called It Art." DeBra's topic will be a "A New Challenge to Art."

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Sept. 12

OLD stuff, of course, that the studios are wheeling sharply from out-and-out war stories. Nevertheless, it is not a complete about-face. Where war themes reached the camera stage before tidings from the Continent went so bullish, obviously the job will be finished and the attractions released. Example: "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

Where war subjects are held to have powerful dramatic values, regardless of the theatre of operations, studios are proceeding. Example: "Counterattack."

Where other producers forego the European stage for a workout on the remaining enemy, plans are uninterrupted. Examples: "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "China Sky."

These, and similar ones, are not pictures on paper. They were finished recently, are well along, or are just starting.

■

Current concentration, as far as it has gone, is fastened on the home front and post-war. Expect a fair volume in the latter division. Producers apparently realize they cannot sit at ease by that pot at the end of the rainbow by divorcing themselves entirely from those swirling events in which the world is gyrating.

This has the effect of wide and wholesale search for material they believe will have a chance of proving interesting. And, as always, different from the competitor down the street or over the hill.

■

The search can reach pretty far, too. For instance, there is a project under way at Metro. Prejudging frequently proves bad judging, but there doesn't seem to be enough resistance at column time to pass this by. What "Hold High the Torch" is about is this:

The rehabilitation of a dog who returns from a tour of duty with the Army's K-9 Corps. The animal has difficulty in readjusting itself to civilian life. With the aid of an understanding master, the change is successfully accomplished.

■ ■

RKO will revert to an old, but neat, one with Cantinflas, by press agentry accredited with being the Chaplin of Mexico. The comic will make a picture in Spanish. This calls for Spanish and/or Mexican support, plus a Mexican director. An American lead, maybe George Murphy, will replace him in an English-speaking version for the rest of the markets. The cast and director, of course, will be American.

Sets, identical. Script, identical aside from whatever emphasis is determined for the Spanish film, and vice versa. The method by which negative cost will be cut up is another matter. Accountants will find a way.

■ ■

They are saying Warner should have switched its distributing identity from Vitagraph to the parent company name years ago; that oversight contributed to the neglect. It never made much difference to the exhibitor anyway except in a number of established instances where a theatreman had occasion to call his exchange. He couldn't find Warner in his telephone book.

Oversight gave way to decision, however, when one of the executives—he loiters near the top—wanted something whole in a midwestern city. He looked for Warner, didn't find it, ultimately remembered Vitagraph, decided the time had come.

Thereafter, the changeover to Warner Bros. Distributing Corp.

■ ■

Everyone knows business is wonderful. Many, but not all, do not realize that today's financial statements reflect the hits or the errors, as the case may be, of projects launched 18 months to two years ago. This is the average time lapse between an idea twinkling in someone's eye, the transplanting of it into action, the completed film and theatre playoffs.

The hits or the errors of today won't show finally until March or September of 1946. A long time to be suspended between expectancies and realizations.

■ ■

True or false, legend or fact, it is being told how Jack Warner was discussing "Arsenic and Old Lace." Cary Grant, star of the picture made two years and a half ago, asked:

"Who's in it?"

■ ■

What's this about Bob Weitman retiring from Times Square, which means the Paramount Theatre, for Marathon Street, Hollywood, which means Paramount production?

Maybe he will and again maybe he won't. It's been talked about, however.

Correction, Please

An evil gremlin has been pursuing *Motion Picture Daily* in dealing with activities of John Hertz, Jr. since his recent appointment in charge of industry publicity for the Sixth War Loan campaign.

A few weeks ago a composing room error substituted a cut of many years ago of John Hertz Senior for the intended likeness of John Hertz Junior. Then, in the following issue in attempting to provide a correction the gremlin (it must have been) tossed in a "W" as a middle initial which does not belong to young John Hertz.

And yesterday a combination compositor and proofroom error substituted "retirement" for "appointment" in a story telling about Hertz' participation in a loan campaign strategy conference.

Hertz is chairman of the board of Buchanan and Co., Inc., advertising agency, and was appointed to head the publicity of the industry in connection with the Sixth War Loan campaign.

—S. K.

SWG Calls Meeting; Jack Warner to Speak

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—The Screen Writers Guild today called a membership meeting today for Sept. 21 to canvass postwar prospects on the industry in general and the writing craft in particular; whether production will expand or contract, general effect of television, and the expanding educational and industrial film field are on the agenda for discussion. Jack Warner will speak on the industry's outlook.

Monogram Host to Belita at Party

Belita, Monogram star of "Lady, Let's Dance" and "Silver Skates," was guest of honor at a reception given by the company yesterday at the St. Regis Hotel here. Also honored was Maurice St. Clair, her dancing partner in the first named production. Trade paper, newspaper and fan magazine representatives attended.

Decorate Jack Cohn's Son

First Lt. Robert Cohn, son of Jack Cohn, Columbia's executive vice-president, has been awarded the Army Air Medal, according to word received by his father from the War Department. Lt. Cohn, a photographer-gunner with the U. S. Army Air Force, is stationed in the Admiralty Islands. He enlisted two years ago and has been on overseas duty since last February.

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"Seventh Cross"
Coming!
CAPITOL

"Mrs. Parkington"
Coming!
MUSIC HALL

"Barbary Coast Gent"
Coming!
GLOBE

"Kismet"
ASTOR

"Maisie Goes To Reno"
Coming!
STATE

Marks the spot where gold is plentiful. As usual the map of Broadway shows that most of the money deposits come from M-G-M. Use it as a guide when you dig for gold on your Main Street!

N
W
E
S
TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
MGM

BROADWAY TREASURE MAP!



Sixth Drive Seen Vital To Stability

(Continued from page 1)

vital to the stability of the country."

The challenge implicit in Gamble's remarks was accepted by chairman Brandt on behalf of those present and the entire industry. "We will not let the nation down," Brandt said. He called for more bond premieres, more children's shows, a more universal application of "Free Movie Day," and more theatre issuing agents than in any preceding drive. To gain these ends, a series of regional meetings will be held, Brandt announced.

Following the luncheon, Brandt introduced S. H. Fabian, War Activities committee theatre division head, who said, "We ask the men overseas to finish the war for us, so we must here continue until the last gun is fired."

R. J. O'Donnell's Tribute

Robert J. O'Donnell, Fifth War Loan chairman, paid tribute to the men of that drive's committee, most of whom were present at the meeting. "Much of the credit for the 'grass roots' campaign the Fifth was supposed to be," he said, "reflects the fine efforts of John Friedl, Richard Kennedy, Ray Beall, Joe Kinsky and Claude Lee."

John Hertz, Jr., chairman of the advertising, publicity and exploitation end of the sixth campaign, outlined a national program designed to focus the attention of theatregoers all over the nation on the fact that bonds can be bought, cash-and-carry, at theatres, night and day, Saturdays and holidays.

Hal Horne, chairman of the Eastern Public Information Committee, and Charles E. Lewis, assistant chairman of the WAC trade press division, pledged the assistance of their group.

Ned Depinet's Statement

Ned E. Depinet declared that those in distribution would canvass all exhibitors in an effort to be of service. On the agenda for his division for the coming campaign will be an attempt to ge more bond "revenue" from subsequent runs in larger cities. He stated that he was certain there would be more premieres, children's matinees and "Free Movie Days."

Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, called for "fresh rededication of ourselves to the causes for which so many of our finest young men have given their lives." He emphasized that with the collapse of Germany the two months following would be the most dangerous in the country's history. A spirited prosecution of the war loan drive, he implied, would serve as a constructive influence.

"Our job," he said, "is over and above the sale of securities. We have to do this job and we must do it better than ever before."

All but two of Brandt's nine co-chairmen, culled from the roster of top independent exhibitors, were present. Those present were W. F. Crockett, Hugh Bruen, Jack Kirsch, John Rugar, Henry Reeves, Leo Wolcott and Nathan Yamins. Unable to attend were Fred Wehrenberg and Al Steffes.

Others present included: Si Seadler, Leon Bamberger, Herman Schleier, Arthur Mayer, Walter T. Brown and Ed Schreiber.

Exhibitors Plan Sixth Drive

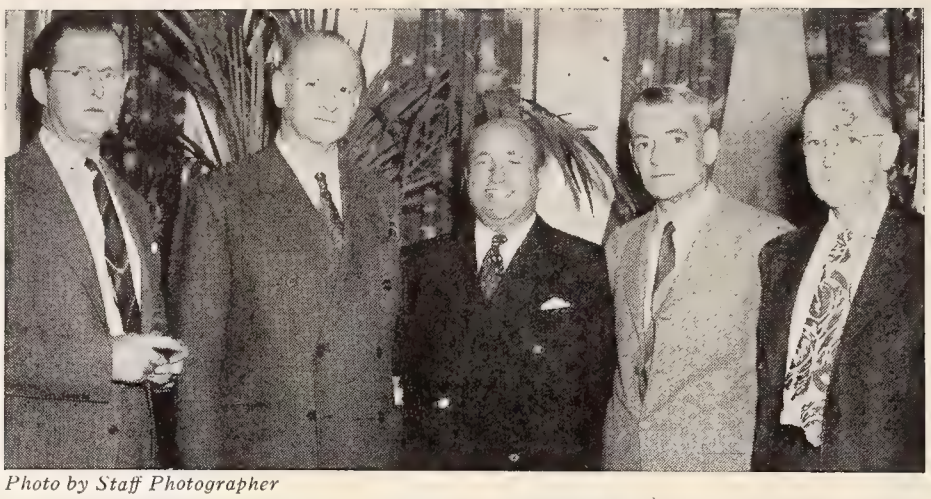


Photo by Staff Photographer

The 'grand strategy' of exhibitor participation in the Sixth War Loan drive, Nov. 11-Dec. 7, was mapped here yesterday at a meeting of the 'high command' at the Astor Hotel, with top independent exhibitors present at the call of Harry Brandt, industry drive chairman. In the photograph above, taken at yesterday's meeting, are, left to right: Henry Reeves, president, Texas Theatre Owners; Hugh Bruen, treasurer, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; chairman Brandt; William J. Crockett, president, MPTO of Virginia, and John Rugar of the Intermountain Theatres Association.

Other committee members are: Jack Kirsch, president, Theatre Owners of Illinois; Al Steffes of Allied Theatre Owners of the Northwest; Leo Wolcott, president, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska; Fred Wehrenberg, president, MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois, and Nathan Yamins, chairman of the executive committee of Independent Exhibitors, Boston.

M. P. Associates Plan Sixth Loan Dinner

Motion Picture Associates will begin its participation in the Sixth War Loan drive with a dinner at the Astor Hotel here shortly before the opening of the campaign on Nov. 11, president Morris Sanders announced yesterday following a meeting of the organization. James Walker will preside at the banquet, at which Harry Brandt, industry chairman for the Sixth War Loan, will be guest.

MPA's plans for members' increased insurance benefits was brought up at yesterday's meeting and returned to the board of directors, which includes Jack Ellis of United Artists and Jules Levey of Universal.

Deny Stone Charge

An answer denying a breach-of-contract allegation by Dorothy T. Stone will be filed in Federal district court here later this month by RKO-Pathe News, according to a spokesman for the RKO legal department. Miss Stone, who runs a film library, has entered suit for $25,250, charging that RKO violated an agreement calling for her services as associate editor and the use of her library on "Flicker Flashbacks." RKO will contend that the agreement was for only one issue in the series, it was said.

'Heart' Showing Sept. 29

RKO's "None But the Lonely Heart" will be tradeshown Sept. 29, instead of Sept. 18, as previously announced.

Expect 555 Million Feet of Raw Stock

(Continued from page 1)

over the distribution of raw stock for the industry under a plan which will permit laboratories and service organizations to process 35-mm. film for producers and distributors only upon specific authorization from the WPB, in accordance with the quotas established for the individual companies. Heretofore, laboratories and service organizations have been permitted to purchase unlimited quantities of film to be exposed for producers and distributors, which contributed to the over-consumption in the early months of the year and which depleted inventories and required a curtailment of use this quarter.

Rubens Warns of Drop After 'V-Day'

(Continued from page 1)

quietly happening. In one theatre alone, there was an actual drop of $11,000 in net profits in a short period, mostly due to this."

Rubens also states that the current shortage of help is not an acceptable excuse for discourteous or inefficient service. "Here is a chance," he writes, "for every manager to build up his own personality in a community by being constantly out front to greet his patrons. Being there with a smile and pleasant 'good evening' means a lot to everyone."

Ochs to Build 3 Drive-Ins

CLEVELAND, Sept. 12. — Herbert Ochs, operator of the Dayton Drive-In Theatre, has announced plans to build other drive-in houses here and in Columbus and Toledo.

Keep WAC, Urges Coe

(Continued from page 1)

harmoniously for a common cause and that it has given the public, whose contact is through the theatre, a better knowledge of the industry as a whole. He said the possible discontinuance of the WAC would be a "tragedy."

Coe called the press conference to report that his MPPDA industry promotional speaking tours would be held up until after the presidential election because the campaigns will command much of the public's attention in the interim. He added, however, that he had accepted an invitation to address a dinner sponsored by Allied Theatrical Industries, Inc., in Montreal Sept. 20. He pointed out that this would be his first talk under the sponsorship of an exhibitor group.

Review of Public Relations

Reviewing the progress made in MPPDA public relations over the past two years, Coe stressed the constant avoidance of any discussion of trade practices, holding this to be outside the program's intention, which, he said, was to emphasize industry unity. "In the past six months, we have received the most wholesome cooperation from independent exhibitors and circuit operators," Coe added, remarking that "the entertainment world has come to realize that the best interests of all will be served by diminished bickering."

He declared that "the best regulatory laws, internal or external, will be written by those producers, distributors and exhibitors who have the most at stake." He disclosed that he has a list of 15,000 selected names of disinterested community leaders who have discussed all functions of the industry with him.

Plans for more speaking tours after the November election are being made by Coe. The procedure, he indicated, will differ somewhat from in the past, but details of the plan will not be announced until they have been approved by the industry's Public Information Committee.

Perpetuation of the War Activities Committee, suggested yesterday by Coe, was reported last week to have met with the approval of George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman, who held that it could serve a highly useful peacetime purpose.

Fox Names Mitchell Camera Head

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—William Fox has appointed Joe Leo, one of his former associates in the old Fox Film Corp., to the post of vice-president of Mitchell Camera Co., which the Fox family controls, it was learned here today following the resignation of Stanley Anderson, Mitchell president.

Fox, who came here several weeks ago to endeavor to negotiate a studio and to sign up producers, directors and actors for his proposed new production company, plans to leave for the East on Friday or next Wednesday, depending on when he can get transportation. He refused to comment on the progress made here on his efforts to re-enter the industry.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Sept. 12

WHAT is believed to be an all-time record for pictures in production in one month at that studio will be set by Columbia, if present plans materialize. According to the schedule, there will be 17 films in work in October. Of these, seven are shooting currently and 10 are due to start within the month. Among those in preparation are: "Eadie Was a Lady," starring Ann Miller; "Brenda Starr, Reporter"; the first of the new "Blondie" series, and a Charles Starrett Western, "Lawless Empire."

•

Mark Hellinger is doing preparatory work on "Will Rogers," his next production assignment at the Warner studio. . . . Conflicting schedules have necessitated a switch in directors on "Salome — Where She Danced." Charles Lamont will take over for Walter Wanger, replacing Erle Kenton, who is developing an untitled story of his own. . . . Paramount has closed a deal with Ann Thomas, Broadway comedienne, to come here to play an important role in "Duffy's Tavern." . . . Wallace Fox will direct "Saddle Pals," first of Monogram's new series of the same name. . . . William Jacobs has been assigned to produce "Don't Ever Leave Me" for Warners. . . . Bela Lugosi has been signed for one of the principal roles in RKO's comedy, "Zombie on Broadway." . . . Hal Wallis has borrowed Walter Abel for a key role in "The Affairs of Susan," which will be Wallis' first for Paramount.

•

Chris-Pin Martin is set for a comedy role in Warners' color production, "San Antonio," which stars Errol Flynn. . . . Susanna Foster and Turhan Bey will have the principal roles in "Frisco Sal," at Universal. . . . Dean Harens will have the role of Charles Laughton's son in "The Suspect," at Universal. . . . Five more players have been signed to appear in the prologue to the Warners' "Roughly Speaking." They are Cora Sue Collins, Helene Thimig, Arthur Shields, Ray Collins and Greta Granstedt. . . . Paul Langton has been assigned the juvenile lead in "Hold High the Torch," which Robert Sisk is producing at M-G-M.

•

Dorothy Lamour and Arturo de Cordova will be teamed again in Paramount's "Masquerade in Mexico," which Mitchell Leisen will direct. . . . W. R. Frank has signed Charlotte Treadway for an important role in his current feature, "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog." . . . M-G-M has renewed "Hank" Daniels' contract. . . . The Navy Department reportedly was so impressed with 20th Century-Fox's "Fighting Lady" that it will aid in its exploitation. . . . George Coulouris has been signed for a featured role in "Miss Susie Slagle's" at Paramount. . . . Warners has renewed Barbara Brown's contract. . . . Fulton Burley has been signed to a long term contract by M-G-M. . . . Lane Watson, recently given a term deal by International, will play the role of a newspaper photographer in the Sonja Henie starrer, "It's a Pleasure."

Review

"That's My Baby"

(Republic)

A DELIGHTFUL bit of whimsy has been whipped up by producer Walter Colmes and director William Berke with the result that many heavy hearts will be lighter for having seen "That's My Baby." There is an excellent cast, including Richard Arlen, Ellen Drew, Leonid Kinskey, Richard Bailey, Minor Watson and Madeline Grey; and there is a series of acts that proves vaudeville still leads a lusty existence, at least on the screen. The whole is a gratifying film that exceeds its modest expectations.

Starting with the promising background of a coming book studio, the film explores Minor Watson's pronounced melancholia. Watson, it seems, is a comic book king who has gone sour on life and comics. Kinskey is called in on the case as a consulting psychiatrist and contributes a gem of a performance as the uninhibited man of science who probes into the lives of all, seeing paranoid types on every hand. When Watson is about to flee to California after failing to crack a smile in response to the united efforts of an entire vaudeville bill, Miss Grey, his long-absent wife is produced, and she unearths the cause of his chronic depression; a cartoon of a baby which she once laughed at when they both were young. Arlen, an artist in the studio, and Miss Drew, his light of love and Watson's daughter, have the original cartoon transcribed to the screen and the comic book magnate breaks down and smiles, nay, laughs, loudly.

Gene Rodgers, "boogie-woogie" pianist, is outstanding among the specialty acts which include Mike Riley and his band; Freddie Fisher and his boys; Isabelita and the Guadalahara Boys, among others. Richard Bailey is present as the sole villain. Nicholas Barrows and William Tunberg did the screenplay from Irving Wallace's original.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 14.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

$1,000,000 RKO Studio Building Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

the Eastern wall of the RKO plant is an area now utilized as a parking space. While the decision is yet to be made, the proposed administration building may go up on the site now housing KHJ.

The plan provides for the demolition of such departments as wardrobe and accounting, now housed in bungalows, and for their incorporation in the new administration building.

Currently functioning with 14 sound stages, RKO plans to build either one double-size stage or two smaller ones. If a double, its construction will allow for doors to divide it in two, thereby making a potential of 16 studios when the construction program is finalized.

Koerner states that no expansion program is in mind for the RKO Pathe lot in Culver City. This is a combination company and rental studio. It is frequently used by RKO when the main plant on Gower St. overflows, but it also houses regularly such producers as Vanguard, Edward Small and Sol Lesser. It has 12 stages and a 40-acre "back-lot." "Gone With the Wind" was produced there.

WE to Pay Dividend

The board of directors of Western Electric yesterday declared a dividend of 50 cents per share on its common stock, payable Sept. 29 to stockholders of record on Sept. 22.

Republic's Policy Is Public's: Yates

(*Continued from page* 1)

a rapid switch to different story types if required. The first quarter will stress musicals, comedies, light romances and Westerns, and the company will depend on the exhibitors and its sales force for guidance in succeeding periods, Yates added.

Recognizing war films as anathema currently, Yates took the position nobody can foretell if the swing back will not develop later in the year and, therefore, he wants to keep production selectivity sufficiently liquid to effect changes if needed. The program addition will be "Song of Mexico," which James A. Fitzpatrick will make in Mexico as the first of a series for North and South American distribution. While the details were cloaked, Yates also stated Republic is planning production abroad. The studio expansion program interrupted by the war will proceed. New stages and other buildings will cost $2,000,000.

Condon to Handle RKO Pathe Press

The public relations office of Richard Condon, Inc., has been appointed to direct the publicity of RKO Pathe, it was reported here yesterday by Frederic Ullman Jr., RKO Pathe president.

Elsa Mooten, publicity director of Pathe News for the past year, has moved over to the Condon organization, and will concentrate upon the RKO Pathe account.

Another New Ruml Post-war Tax Plan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Another plan for post-war taxation, providing for the elimination of excess profits and capital stock taxes and the return of normal and surtax rates to the 1940 level, was submitted today to the joint Congressional committee on internal revenue and taxation.

The plan was proposed by the National Planning Association, of which Beardsley Ruml, who participated in the tax recommendations made last week by the Committee for Economic Development, is a vice-chairman.

Organizations' Opinions

A number of suggestions have been received by the joint Congressional committee, which recently invited all types of national organizations to make their tax views known. Several of the programs call for the repeal of excise taxes, including the levy on theatre admissions, and there is considerable sympathy for that idea in Congressional circles, which indicates that the first tax legislation to be written next year may provide for the immediate elimination of at least the war-time increase in the tax, which went into effect last Spring.

In some quarters, however, it is felt that retention of excise taxes, but on a lower level than at present, may be necessary in order that individual income tax rates may be reduced to a point which will maintain public buying power in the face of lower incomes after the war, when overtime and lucrative war jobs will end.

Pay-as-you-go collection, with its payroll deductions, is seen now as a permanent feature of the tax policy, but relief is expected to be provided for individuals whose incomes fluctuate widely from year to year and month to month, possibly by some device for the averaging of income.

Seek Tax Council With WAC Support

(*Continued from page* 1)

prevail upon the theatres division of the industry War Activities Committee to be the instrument for establishment of the unit.

Previous organization of the group, which was to act as a united front on impending tax legislation, with particular reference to Federal admission taxation, died aborning when the Washington office of MPPDA reportedly felt it was an invasion of its domain. It was designed to represent the MPTOA, Allied States, affiliated theatres and unattached regional exhibitor organizations.

The Allied board rejected a proposal to become affiliated with the tax council, but the remaining exhibitor groups decided to proceed without Allied's participation. A meeting was tentatively scheduled to be held in Chicago this month but was abandoned as a result of the MPPDA opposition.

Services for Steiner

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Forest Lawn for Gabor Christian Steiner, 86, father of Max Steiner, composer and conductor under contract to Warners. Steiner died Saturday after a nine months' illness. His son is the sole survivor.

Schine Defines Task Of Victory Showman

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 12.—Discussions were conducted today by Schine Circuit home office executives and division managers preliminary to tomorrow's meeting, which will also include field managers, with the theme to be a return to pre-war showmanship in the future by the use of greater exploitation, in order to hold patronage built up in the boom era. Other subjects on tomorrow's agenda will be plans for V-Day with a program and policy lined up by L. W. Schine, who presided at today's meeting.

Schine stated, "The business is well qualified to cope with any postwar problems, but we must make up our minds now that the future will require greater selling efforts and we must now prepare ourselves to create new ideas and combine them with the successful ones of the past. That will be the task of the victory showman."

Ferguson to Address Schine Managers

William R. Ferguson, M-G-M director of exploitation, will leave here today for Gloversville, N. Y., where he will attend a banquet tonight for Schine circuit managers and tomorrow be one of the speakers at the Schine managers' meeting.

Ferguson will discuss the 132-city world premiere of M-G-M's "An American Romance" to be held in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia, in conjunction with a tieup between M-G-M and WLW, Cincinnati radio station. Schine is participating in the premiere. He will also talk on promotion for the company's ninth block.

No Tie for PCCITO With Allied; Bruen

(*Continued from page* 1)

"grand strategy" meeting of the industry's Sixth War Loan Committee, of which he is a co-chairman, Bruen said that he was anxious to correct the impression that PCCITO plans an affiliation with Allied, adding that he has sent a telegram to Allied executives stating his organization's position.

Bruen stressed that PCCITO will continue to cooperate with Allied on some of the programs of that organization. As previously reported, Martin G. Smith, Allied president, will attend the Winter meeting of PCCITO, according to an Allied executive decision, but Bruen added that this is not to be taken as any indication of a possible affiliation of PCCITO with Allied.

PCCITO has a special tax committee, according to Bruen, and a program of post-war theatre tax recommendations is being promulgated.

WB Distributes 'Battle'

Warners will distribute "The Battle for the Marianas," produced by the U. S. Marine Corps. In order to release the two-reel subject as soon as possible on a day-and-date basis Warners will provide the largest number of prints ever made for that type of subject, the home office declared. The film will be screened today at 2:30 P. M. in the company's projection room here.

Review

"The Singing Sheriff"

(*Universal*)

ALTHOUGH followers of Bob Crosby will enjoy his crooning in "The Singing Sheriff," a musical Western, it remains, nevertheless, a curious mixture of straight melodramatics and spoofing that never quite makes up one's mind as to which direction it is riding. It alternates between straight Western gunplay and a tongue in the cheek attitude that is best exemplified by the final sequence, where an off-screen voice urges Crosby to kiss the heroine, Fay McKenzie. Crosby is at his best in the vocal sequences, creditably delivering "When a Cowboy Sings" and "Reach for the Sky."

Screenplay by Henry Blankfort and Eugene Conrad, from an original by John Grey, has Crosby, a performer in a Western troupe, journey into the Western badlands in response to a plea by Samuel S. Hinds, a sheriff who has been incapacitated by Joe Sawyer's gang. Crosby is impersonating Walter Sande, the sheriff's son, who has been away since babyhood. The tenderfoot overcomes the gang by a series of adroit manipulations. 'Fuzzy' Knight, as a hare-brained sheriff, supplies the comedy; Iris Adrian, Edward Norris and Andrew Tombes are others in the cast. Leslie Goodwins directed, while Bernard W. Burton was associate producer.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 6.

CHARLES RYWECK

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Present Wac Drive Reports to Gen. Ulio

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Representatives of the War Activities Committee turned over three "scrapbooks," records of the work of the film industry in assisting recruiting for the Women's Army Corps, to Major General J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General. General Ulio told the WAC executives that "the support given to WAC recruiting by the motion picture industry through its distributors and thousands of exhibitors is evidenced in this visual record."

The presentation to General Ulio was made by WAC campaign heads, Edward L. Alperson and Harry Mandel, chairman and publicity director, respectively. Also present were: S. H. Fabian, George J. Schaefer, Hardie Meakin and Ed. Schreiber.

Young, Rosenfield On UOPWA Board

Sidney Young, president of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, and Jonas Rosenfield, Jr., head of the Screen Publicists Guild of New York, have been elected members of the general executive board of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, which last week held its fifth convention of the "white collar" workers' group in Philadelphia, and at which Lewis Merrill was reelected president.

Para. Pep Club Meeting

Dorothy Lamour, Diana Lynn, Edith Head and Mrs. Joseph Sistrom helped inaugurate the Paramount Pep Club's Fall season of monthly meetings here yesterday. Feature of the meeting was an explanation to several hundred home office employes of the functions of the Eastern production department of the company with Russell Holman, John Byram, Richard Mealand and Boris Kaplin participating. Knox Haddow, Pep Club president, and Irving Singer, chairman of the Club's special events, were in charge of the meeting.

Holdovers Depress Baltimore Grosses

BALTIMORE, Sept. 12.—Holdovers are everywhere this week. Not a new picture put in appearance and, as a result, boxoffice figures failed to reach the proportions that attend newcomers.

The best is "Going My Way," which continues to draw well, taking an easy $18,500 at Keith's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14:

"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $15,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show: Lionel Kaye, Peter Chan, Wally Ward, the Fontaines. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,500).

"Janie" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000).

"Ghost Catchers" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000).

Coleman to Assist Geo. Smith at Para.

Lester B. Coleman, Paramount general traveling auditor, has been promoted to the home office post of assistant to George A. Smith, Western division manager, Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, anounced here yesterday.

Arthur Dunne, who has been assistant to Smith, will assist J. J. Donohue, recently appointed Central division manager.

Coleman has been with Paramount since 1925, with the exception of two years. He joined the company at the Kansas City exchange as chief accountant. He also worked at the Omaha exchange and later served as traveling auditor and Chicago exchange chief accountant. He joined comptroller Fred Mohrhardt's staff in 1935, and since December, 1942, has been general traveling auditor in the U. S. and Canada.

U. S. May Secure Foothold in France

(*Continued from page* 1)

credits in French or North African production or theatre acquisition. The creation of an American monopoly throughout France's domain thus becomes a possibility, it is said here.

War correspondents' experiences with French audiences since the invasion reveal a vast interest in what the outside world has been doing these last four years with the people showing an intense interest in Allied documentaries, especially films on social improvisation, meeting the impact of an invasion threat to England and national health and feeding schemes, factory and agricultural mobilizations and also a keen interest in films on the American war effort in the Pacific which hitherto has been virtually unknown in France.

A general complaint has been voiced that no Walt Disney shorts have been shown.

(Peter Burnup, in a cable from London appearing in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Sept. 5, described the manner in which film-hungry liberated France is hailing the showing of films sent in by the Allies under a carefully-conceived military plan to have films follow the invaders' first attacks on through the battles for the rest of France).

10 Disney Films To Army's PWB

Arrangements have been made to include 10 or 12 Disney short subjects for showing in the liberated areas by the U. S. Army's Psychological Warfare Branch, it was learned here yesterday from the Office of War Information's overseas film bureau.

Bergman West on New 'U' Campaigns

(*Continued from page* 1)

conferring with John Joseph, Universal's national director of advertising.

One of the major topics will be the campaign for Deanna Durbin's "Can't Help Singing." It is estimated that an appropriation of $300,000 will be set for the picture, representing the largest advertising budget Universal has ever placed on any one picture. The campaign will embrace billboards, magazines, newspapers and radio.

Other campaigns to be discussed at the studio conferences will be those for "Bowery to Broadway" and "The Suspect."

N.E. Campaign for 'Race' Begins Today

The campaign for RKO's "The Master Race," produced by Edward Golden, will be launched in the New England area today when RKO will be host to a group of newspaper publishers at a luncheon at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Boston. The New England premiere for the film will be held Oct. 25 when the picture will open in Boston, New Haven, Albany and Buffalo.

Principal speaker at tomorrow's luncheon will be Gregor Ziemer, news commentator and author of the book upon which RKO's "Hitler's Children" was based.

$17,300 for 'Way' Holding in Toronto

TORONTO, Sept. 12.—"Going My Way" retained its popular way at Shea's Theatre with $17,300 in sight for its second week, while "Home in Indiana" was pointing to $13,800 at the Imperial and the sixth week of "The White Cliffs of Dover" looked like $9,200 at Loew's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14:

"San Demetrio-London" (British)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).
"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
IMPERIAL — (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $12,800).
"The White Cliffs of Dover" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 6th week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,200).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,300. (Average: $12,800).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Gambler's Choice" (Para.)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"In Society" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,800).

'Wilson' Opening Sets Kansas City Pace

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 12.—The Tower reports fine response to the long-heralded "Wilson," with delighted audiences and a delightful gross of around $25,000. The Newman is still doing big business with "Going My Way" grossing $24,000 for the fifth week, which breaks any previous record.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 12-15:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND — (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
TOWER—(2,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $9,400).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,600).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY — (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600).

Great Flood Damage To Mexican Theatres

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 12.—Many theatres in Chihuahua, Coahuila and parts of Durango have been totally wrecked or crippled by the worst flood to hit Mexico's North Central states in years. Indications are that houses will be out of commission for a long time.

Over 100 were killed by the floods, and thousands have been made homeless.

WB to Be Open 'V-Day'

CLEVELAND, Sept. 12.—Warner theatres here will remain open on "V-Day," local circuit officials report. Nat Wolf, zone manager, stated that managers will be instructed to remain "on call" all day. Loew houses here will also stay open, it was said.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



FAMED KATE SMITH HOUR STARTS THIS SUNDAY FEATURING SCENES FROM **"OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY"!** DIANA LYNN, WHO CO-STARS WITH GAIL RUSSELL IN THE FILM, AND CORNELIA OTIS SKINNER, AUTHOR OF THE BEST SELLER WHICH HAD 20,000,000 READERS, WILL APPEAR IN BROADCAST VERSION WHICH CONTINUES EXTENSIVE RADIO PROMOTION OF THIS IMPORTANT PARAMOUNT COMEDY.

'Wilson's $79,000 Leads Philadelphia In Booming Season

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 12.—Business in center-city theatres is booming at the start of the new season. "Wilson" figures will go over the top with a gross pointing to $79,000 for the dual showing of the film at the Earle and Aldine. The other major opening, "I Love a Soldier," at the Stanley, points to $31,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 13-15:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE — (900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $14,600).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ARCADIA—(600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $4,000).
"Janie" (WB)
BOYD—(3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $18,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
EARLE—(3,000) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days. Gross: $44,000. (Average: $27,600).
"In Society" (Univ.)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $20,500).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M, reissue)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $9,700. (Average: $5,800).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,200. (Average: $22,500).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $31,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Marine Raider" (RKO)
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,400).

'Greenwich' Doubles Par in Denver Dual

DENVER, Sept. 12.—"Greenwich Village" on a dual at both the Denver and Esquire theaters doubled par at the Denver and clicked to the tune of $30,000. "Secret Command" on a twin bill at the Paramount scored $14,880, while "Going My Way" at the Denham closed its sixth and final week with a gross of $10,000. Most moveovers and returns were doing fair business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 10-14:

"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
"Storm Over Lisbon" (Rep.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $6,720. (Average: $5,600).
"Fantasia" (RKO-Disney)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, return engagements. Gross: $6,630. (Average: $3,900).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-54c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,425. (Average: $4,500).
"Secret Command" (Col.)
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $9,300).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Black Market" (Mono.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,000).



Everybody loves San Diego I Love You

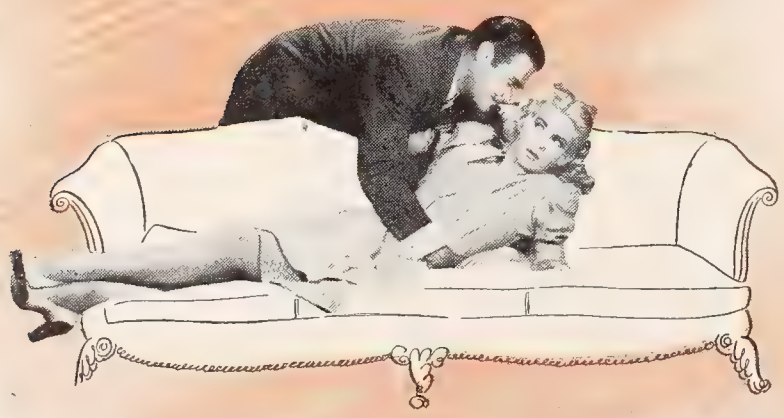
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER *says:*

"SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU is the kind of movie that people go back to see more than once. As a matter of simple fact, SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU comes dangerously close to being Academy Award material, for it has all of the charm, zany gayety and greatness that made box-office smashes out of IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT and YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU."

JON HALL LOUISE ALLBRITTON

San Diego I Love You

EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ERIC BLORE
BUSTER KEATON FLORENCE LAKE IRENE RYAN



Screen Play by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano From a Story by Ruth McKenney & Richard Bransten
Directed by REGINALD LE BORG • Produced by MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 52 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1944 TEN CENTS

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U' to Spend 5 Millions On Its Studio

0 New Stages Planned; Will Cut Exteriors

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—Most mbitious construction and modrnization plan in Hollywood is niversal's. The Valley studio is onsidering 20 new stages and a udio-wide program of air conditiong as soon as the easing of military equirements permits the release of ie necessary materials. These prinpal proposals, plus extensive replaceents in all kinds of technical equipent, will combine into a $5,000,000 penditure if developed finally as ntemplated.

The future envisions the elimina-on of as many exterior sets as posble. Universal feels that, once anding sets are placed under cover id the stages housing them air contioned, far more economical studio eration will result. Of the 20 stages w standing, 18 are useable. The her two are older and probably will

(Continued on page 6)

SS Cautious on tudio Expansion

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—General Serce Studios, which rents space to inependent producers, will not be in the construction market overnight folwing relaxation of WPB restrictions materials. On the contrary, acrding to a GSS spokesman, this oranization will continue to operate on e basis of its present four stages as ng as may be required. The quesn to be decided is whether the end the war is to be followed by an crease or a decrease of independent

(Continued on page 6)

inger Named Bond ssistant to Hertz

Sumner W. Singer, Buchanan & Co. dvertising agency account executive, as been named special assistant to ohn Hertz, Jr., publicity and advertisng chairman of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive. Singer, who returned esterday from a business trip to ollywood, will have charge of prearing the press book for the camaign.

Singer said the press book will be

(Continued on page 6)

Power, Roads Pinch Europe

A shortage of electric power, caused by widespread destruction of plant facilities, and poor transportation existing on the European Continent are the twin obstacles that stand in the way of "resumption of normal business there," in the opinion of Joseph Seidelman, president of Universal's International Corp.



Joseph Seidelman

In an interview here yesterday with MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Seidelman stated that the Office of War Information's overseas film bu-

(Continued on page 3)

Smith to Resume Post In Paris for MPPDA

Harold Smith, assistant to Carl Milliken, head of the MPPDA's foreign department, is scheduled to leave for Paris to resume his post there as Continental representative for the MPPDA as soon as permission is secured from the U. S. Government, it was learned here yesterday. Stumbling block to Smith's return to France, it

(Continued on page 6)

BERGE WARNS ALL BUYING POOLS

British Plan Pooling All Studio Space

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The British Film Producers Association and the British Board of Trade have reached an agreement whereby all studio space in this country, as it is de-requisitioned by the Government, will be pooled among all producers, according to an official announcement made here today.

The plan is the outgrowth of one phase of the Aug. 1 report of the BOT monopoly committee, which made the point that flourishing "independent" production is necessary for a prosperous British industry and suggested the establishment of a tribunal to allocate space, regardless of ownership, among all comers.

De-requisitioning has already be-

(Continued on page 6)

Anti-Trust Chief Says U. S. Will Prosecute Independent Circuits

By WILLIAM R. WEAVER

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 13.—Wendell Berge, Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, emphasized here today that the Department of Justice intends to press action against independent as well as affiliated circuits as part of its current activities involving the industry.

In his second press conference in 48 hours here, Berge said the Department's program includes the following:

"1. Buying pools, booking arrangements and combinations between major theatre circuits will be prosecuted.

"2. We will seek dissolution of similar combinations be-

(Continued on page 3)

Agnew Predicts 10 Million for 'SYWA'

"Since You Went Away" is headed for a domestic gross of $10,000,000, it was predicted here yesterday by Neil Agnew, Vanguard Films' vice-president in charge of distribution. Agnew said such a gross would make the picture the runner-up to David Selznick's "Gone With the Wind," which is said to have grossed $32,000,000.

Agnew stated that, "without an advertising campaign so costly as to constitute 'buying' an audience," "SYWA" has already grossed more at the Capi-

(Continued on page 6)

"Mrs. Parkington"

[*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*]

M-G-M has achieved a worthy successor to "Mrs. Miniver" in "Mrs. Parkington," Leon Gordon's impressive production, derived from Louis Bromfield's romantic novel, and starring Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. It is one of the year's outstanding films, splendidly acted by a superb cast, which also includes Edward Arnold and Agnes Moorehead; brilliantly directed by Tay Garnett; and encased in lavish and resplendent settings. It should score mightily at the box office.

The tender, delightful romance between Miss Garson, as Susie Graham, later Susie Parkington, a beautiful, vivacious daughter of a Nevada mining-town boardinghouse keeper, and Pidgeon, as Major Augustus Parkington, a wealthy, flamboyant adventurer, is skilfully blended with a wealth of dramatic incidents and appealing, delicious humor in its deftly-paced unfolding under Garnett's intelligent direction. "Mrs. Parkington" is grand entertainment.

There are a few minor lulls in the tempo of the screenplay, which Robert Thoeren and Polly James fabricated from the Bromfield novel, but they are not serious and they do not detract from the overall enjoy-

(Continued on page 3)

Marines' 'Mariana' a Thrilling Film

The thrilling yet appalling story—appalling because of our losses—of the conquest of the Mariana Islands by American forces, is unfolded in "The Battle for the Marianas," filmed by U. S. Marines, released by the Office of War Information and distributed by Warners, under sponsorship of the War Activities Committee. It is 21 minutes of the actual battle, as it happened, photographed while it was hap-

(Continued on page 6)

RKO Mgrs.' SLRB Election Sept. 29

Representatives of RKO Theatres and Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers, and Assistant Managers Guild have set Sept. 29 for the election ordered by the State Labor Relations Board to determine a collective bargaining agent for managers and assistants in the 41 RKO theatres in Greater New York and Westchester.

One hundred managers and assistants are expected to vote at the election which will be held at the New York office of the SLRB, which ordered the election despite circuit claims that managers are executives and therefore are not eligible for unionization. It is understood that RKO Theatres plan to make a test case of the issue regardless of the results of the election. Cashiers and secretary cashiers of the 41 theatres, who were separated from the bargaining unit by the SLRB, are understood to be planning to set up their own unit and seek recognition independently.

'U' Patterns Drive for 'Merry Monahans"

Maurice Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, reports that the plan employed in Toledo and Providence for "The Merry Monahans" will be the pattern for all openings throughout the country.

The campaigns revolve around a dinner and gathering for the Monahan clan of each city. Hank Linet handled the Toledo and Providence openings, leaving Charles Simonelli in Toledo to continue the program in cooperation with Howard Feigley, manager of the Rivoli there where the film will soon open. Harry McDonald, the company's New England representative, was in charge of the opening at the Albee in Providence.

HWM to Participate In OWI-WAC Film

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—In a meeting considered among the most important in its history, the Hollywood Writers Mobilization Committee tonight will plan for its participation in the upcoming OWI-WAC film production, Hollywood Victory Committee's requirements for increased program of entertainment for the armed forces and similar expanded demands upon the services of writers who funnel their contributions to the war effort through the HWM.

UA Directors End Two-Day Meet Here

The United Artists board of directors concluded their regular meeting here yesterday with several routine matters up for discussion. A company announcement said that an early settlement of any and all intra-company difficulties will "be made shortly."

The meeting was attended by Mary Pickford, Edward C. Raftery, Charles Blinn, George Bagnall, Gradwell L. Sears, Neil Agnew, Rex Dennant, E. Claude Mills and Sidney Chaplin.

Personal Mention

ROBERT RUBIN, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, has returned from a three-week vacation.

•

LAVERN MORDICK, former manager of the Rio Theatre, Chicago Heights, Ill., is missing in action, according to word reaching M. M. RUBENS, vice-president of Publix-Great States Theatres.

•

MOE SILVER, Warner Bros. Theatres Pittsburgh zone manager, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, his assistant, have arrived in New York for home office conferences.

•

BEN CAMMACK, RKO district manager at Dallas, and DUKE YORK, Paramount district manager in the same city, have returned to their respective headquarters from field trips.

•

TED SCHLANGER, Warner Theatres' Philadelphia zone manager, and JOHN TURNER, film buyer, have returned to their headquarters from New York.

•

JACK PURVIS, manager of the Tivoli Theatre, Hamilton, Ontario, announces his elevation to the post of Chief Tail Twister of the Hamilton Lions' Club.

•

TRAVIS BANTON, Columbia studio designer, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

CHARLES KESSNICH, M-G-M district manager at Atlanta, has returned to that city from Memphis.

•

MAX FRIEDMAN, Warner Theatres Albany film buyer, is in New York.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, RKO Radio Eastern talent scout, is enroute to Hollywood.

•

JOSEPH NOLAN, RKO Radio studio executive, is a New York visitor.

MORRIS STEIN, general manger of Famous Players-Canadian's Eastern division, Toronto, is recovering at General Hospital in that city from a lengthy illness.

•

JACK ARTHUR, Famous Players district manager at Toronto, and CHARLES BARYNOWSKI and LES PRESTON, F-P managers at Regina, Sask., and St. Thomas, Ont., respectively, announce the birth of sons.

•

IRVING KERSCH, nephew of producer EDWARD SMALL and assistant to HARRY KOSINER, Small's Eastern representative, and his bride, the former BABETTE HERZOG, are honeymooning at Lake Louise.

•

LIEUT. PAUL MOONEY, formerly of *Motion Picture Herald's* editorial staff, has returned to Camp Jackson, S. C., from a furlough spent here and at Watertown, N. Y.

•

JOE SIMON, manager of the Warner Theatre, Memphis, has returned from a vacation spent traveling with Ringling Brothers' circus, with which he was once associated.

•

CORP. EDWARD H. HOWE, USMC, is safe at Jap military prison No. 1 in the Philippines. He is the son of M. D. (Doc) HOWE, 20th Century-Fox home office exploitation executive.

•

COL. CECIL VOGEL, manager of Loew's Palace, Memphis, has returned to his post recovered from an illness of several weeks.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, president of Malco Theatres, has returned to Memphis from bridge tournaments in New York and Chicago.

•

DOROTHY MADDEN of the United Artists exchange at St. John, N. B., was married recently to JOHN E. FERRIS.

Kreisler to Open N.Y. Offices for Cowan

Bernard B. Kreisler, recently appointed vice-president and general manager of Lester Cowan Productions, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood to open Eastern headquarters.

While here Kreisler will confer with United Artists' Gradwell Sears and Carl Leserman in connection with five preview showings of Cowan's "Tomorrow the World," first Cowan production to be released through UA, to be followed by "G. I. Joe," by Ernie Pyle.

M-G-M Names Gottlieb

S. Gottlieb, sales manager of M-G-M's Pittsburgh branch, has been named exchange manager, succeeding B. D. Stone, who has resigned.

Gottlieb has been with the company for more than 20 years, having been in the accounting, playdate and sales departments in Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit. He has been with the Pittsburgh office since 1933.

Kestenbaum Resigns As PRC Exploiteer

Samuel S. Kestenbaum has resigned as director of exploitation for PRC, effective immediately.

Associated with the company four years, Kestenbaum was director of advertising and publicity before filling the exploitation post. Previously he held various publicity and promotional positions with the old Fox Film Corp., Associated Exhibitors, Tiffany, Monogram, Republic and Grand National.

Reisman to S.A.

Phil Reisman, RKO vice-president in charge of foreign sales, will leave here in several weeks for a month's tour of the company's offices in Cuba, Brazil, Uruguay and other East Coast South American countries.

Coplan to Hollywood

TORONTO, Sept. 13.—Dave Coplan, formerly of Toronto, now managing director of United Artists in England, is en route to Hollywood.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 13

LOUIS B. MAYER, injured Aug. 27 in a fall from a horse, is making steady progress toward recovery but will be confined for some time in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

•

Hal B. Wallis has completed a deal for the screen rights to Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind." The producer also closed a deal for Miss Hellman as a contract writer. Her first assignment will be the screen adaptation of her own play.

•

Samuel Goldwyn announced here today that he has signed McKinley Kantor to write the script for "Home Again," a story of men back from the fighting fronts.

•

Shortly after finishing "Wonder Man", Danny Kaye will be starred in "Fancy Free", a comedy about military policemen in liberated France Samuel Goldwyn has announced.

•

Cantinflas has left by plane for Mexico City following his conferences with RKO on his first American picture.

Roosevelt-Churchill Reel Out Today

First newsreel films of the Roosevelt-Churchill meeting, opening Monday in Quebec, Canada, will be included in five newsreels for release this morning. Shots will show the President's arrival in Quebec, the meeting of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt with Prime Minister Churchill and Mrs. Churchill and Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King of Canada.

Two newsreel crews were assigned to accompany the President to Quebec to represent the five reels with lots determining their selection. M-G-M's News of the Day and RKO Pathe got the assignment.

Newsreel companies anticipate more footage momentarily on the campaigns of the American 1st and 3rd Armies in Northern France and the British and Canadian armies in those battle areas. It is understood the campaigns have been largely overshadowed pictorially by films of the liberation of Paris and the entry of de Gaulle.

MPPDA's Quarterly Board Meeting Held

The board of directors of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America held their quarterly meeting here yesterday, with Will H. Hays, chairman, presiding. Only routine business was transacted, according to an MPPDA spokesman.

Directors present, in addition to Hays, were Barney Balaban, Nicholas M. Schenck, Jack Cohn, E. W. Hammons, Spyros Skouras, N. Peter Rathvon and George Borthwick. Others included Carl E. Milliken, Harry Buckley, John J. O'Connor, Russell Holman and M. C. Michel.

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Berge Warns Of Suits Vs. Independents

(Continued from page 1)

tween major and independently-owned circuits.

"3. We will institute anti-trust action against illegal combinations and monopolistic territorial controls in the hands of independently-operated circuits."

At Monday's press preview, Berge talked. Today, he put it in writing. He reiterated his earlier statement that the government "absolutely" stands by its intention of divorcing affiliated theatres.

"We intend to strike at the illegal and monopolistic practices of the industry wherever we find them, in production, distribution or exhibition," he said.

Clarifies Department's Position

He termed his remarks "clarifying statements" on the Department's position in its film anti-trust litigation. The clarification appeared to trace to some published reports indicating that behind the Department's petition for consent decree changes, filed in the New York Federal District court, was a design which would stimulate the five decree companies into offering concessions which the government would find more to its liking.

Berge's Written Statement

Berge's written statement said in part: "The government's intention to seek divorcement of theatres from the five major companies is clearly defined in the court application recently filed in the pending case against the majors.

"We have absolutely no intention of receding from that position We do intend, however, to stop there."

Berge then described the three objectives reported above. Although he placed an "off-the-record" injunction on various phases of the litigation, he discussed other cases pending, complaints on file, investigations in progress and the necessity for "policing" measures which would prevent theatres from returning to their original ownership or control if and when divorcement is determined.

Berge visited several studios but declined to identify them, although it was learned that Warners was one. He also declined to say whether the visits were on the decree or as a spectator. He left tonight for San Francisco and will visit Portland and Seattle before returning to Washington.

Monogram Sets East Exploitation Unit

Monogram will establish an eastern exploitation department here within ten days, under direction of Harry Goldstein, who has resigned as district manager of M. and P. Theatres in New England, Steve Broidy, Monogram vice-president and general sales manager, stated here yesterday.

The new Eastern exploitation chief, a brother of Jack Goldstein, formerly publicity manager of 20th Century-Fox, will work under the direction of Lou Lifton, head of Monogram's exploitation department at the home office on the Coast.

"Mrs. Parkington"

(Continued from page 1)

ment of the film. On the other hand, there are moments of sheer delight which are not paralleled in many films.

In his book, Bromfield told the story of an American family over a period of more than 50 years, highlighting the incidents in the married life of the Parkingtons and stressing the decadence of the family of this lusty pair. The story is substantially the same in the film version. It is told in a series of flashbacks going back from Christmas, 1938, when a $31,000,000 swindle by a member of the family, played by Arnold, precipitates a crisis which Susie Parkington (Greer Garson), in her 80's—a brilliant and dynamic woman who has retained control of the family destinies—solves in the manner in which she believes the departed Major Parkington would have desired.

Major Parkington was a scoundrel but he remained in love with Susie through all the years of their marriage. They were not easy years for Susie since there were many women in the Major's life, among them the Baroness Conti, his former sweetheart who helped launch Susie in society and eventually became her most devoted friend, and Lady Norah Ebbsworth, whose designs on the Major were frustrated by no less a personage than England's then Prince of Wales.

As the Major and Mrs. Parkington, Pidgeon and Miss Garson add another memorable contribution to their growing list of excellent screen achievements. Miss Moorehead's performance as the Baroness Conti is one of the highlights of the film; so is Cecil Kellaway's enactment of the Prince of Wales. Arnold is convincing as the hapless financial manipulator who brings disgrace to the family, and Frances Rafferty brings charm and warmth to the role of his daughter whose romance is championed by her great-grandmother. Lesser roles are well-handled by Gladys Cooper, Selina Royle, Tom Drake, Peter Lawford, Dan Duryea and Hugh Marlowe.

Plaudits also go to Joseph Ruttenberg's photography which magnificently encompasses the action, and the backgrounds provided by art directors Cedric Gibbons and Randall Duell. Bronislau Kaper's musical background delicately emphasizes the mood.

Running time, 124 minutes. "G."* Released in block No. 9.

MILTON LIVINGSTON.

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Wilson' Given Big Atlanta Opening

ATLANTA, Sept. 13.—The 20th Century-Fox-Darryl F. Zanuck "Wilson" opened here tonight at the Paramount Theatre, following a record campaign. The audience included Gov. Ellis Arnall, Mayor Hartsfield of Atlanta, Robert B. Wilby, William K. Jenkins, Alexander Knox, star of the picture; Carmen Miranda, Dana Andrews, Roddy McDowell, Lynn Bari, George Jessel and author Lamar Trotti. The stars visited the Lawson General Hospital, where they participated in a 30-minute show, which was repeated at Veterans' Hospital No. 48. The premiere was broadcast over radio station WAGA.

'Wilson' in 32 Houses By End of This Week

By the wek's end 19 more theatres will be playing "Wilson," it was disclosed yesterday by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales of 20th Century-Fox, thus bringing the total to 32 up to Sept. 17.

Saltonstall in Film

BOSTON, Sept. 13.—Governor Leverett Saltonstall will appear in "The Springfield Plan," Warners' film on the method he has endorsed for promoting racial tolerance. Persuaded by director Crane Wilbur to take the role of himself in scenes in the state executive offices, the Governor has, however, vetoed the lines prepared for him in Hollywood and will become script writer as well as actor of the part he plays.

Minneapolis Faces Stage Competition

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 13.—With 11 attractions already booked, Minneapolis film houses are in for one of the heaviest competitive stage seasons in years. Leo R. Murray, manager of the Lyceum, where the road companies will be presented, reports the opener will be "Tropical Revue," Sept. 28, followed by "Good Night, Ladies," Oct. 23; "Three's a Family" from Oct. 30; "Student Prince," Nov. 16.

"Sons o' Fun" is scheduled for Dec. 7; "Othello," Dec. 10; "Life With Father," Jan. 10; Helen Hayes in "Harriet," Feb. 20; Feb. 24; Katharine Cornell in "Lovers and Friends," Feb. 28; "Blossom Time," March 21 and "Over 21" May 2.

Class A of SAG to Meet Sunday Night

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—Following the announcement on the outcome of the election of officers, the annual meeting of class A membership of the Screen Actors Guild next Sunday night, will discuss changes in salaries and working conditions to be sought prior to the expiration of the present Guild contract with producers, which has approximately three years to run.

Reports from Walter Abel on television and joint-merger activity, Morgan Wallace on Veterans' Rehabilitation, Edward Arnold on War Activities of Actors, and others, will be read to the assemblage. Incoming president, George Murphy, will preside.

Power, Roads Pinch Europe

(Continued from page 1)

reau, operating through the Allied Psychological Warfare Branch, will continue to retain distribution of American films on the Continent for the present as a matter of "practical necessity." No transportation facilities are available for private use, he pointed out, and for that reason distribution would have to remain under the auspices of that government agency, which can obtain priority.

Paris Ready for Business

Seidelman revealed that he has heard from Etienne Descombey, former controller in the company's Paris office, who reported that he was "ready for business." Descombey succeeded in salvaging certain Universal films from destruction by the Germans, Seidelman said, and stored a number of programs in Lyons and Marseilles. Ten tons of Universal negatives and positives, which the Nazis paid for at the rate of 10 francs a kilogram, were destroyed.

Physical obstacles to resumption of operation in Europe loom even larger than the problems of finance and currency, Universal's foreign sales head declared, as the latter problems will be solved through the instrument of international treaties, and contemplated restrictive legislation may be parried by the State Department. Recent OWI reports from Italy, he said, indicated that the destruction of theatres there has not been as great as anticipated, but the resumption of near normal service was being retarded by lack of electrical power and poor transportation.

Mono. Now Owns 7 Field Branches

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—On acquisition of the 49 per cent interest held by Forrest Judd, Monogram has taken over complete ownership of the Judd-Monogram Des Moines exchange, in a deal consummated yesterday and made retroactive to July 15.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday, the company also recently bought the Oklahoma franchise from Carr Scott. With fully owned exchanges also in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Minneapolis and Omaha, and half-owned exchanges in Seattle and Portland, Monogram now operates offices in 37½ per cent of the revenue producing territory in the United States, according to president W. Ray Johnston. The remainder are owned and operated by franchise holders.

To Argue Local 306 Plea Before SLRB

Arguments will be heard today by the State Labor Relations Board in the petition of IATSE New York projectionists' Local 306 to be declared the collective bargaining agent for some 100 projectionists in the 35 Century Circuit houses in Brooklyn and Queens. The case has been pending before the SLRB for several months.

Nathan Frankel, Local 306 attorney, will represent the union and Mitchell Klupt will represent Century.

You
gotta
hand it
to WARNERS
FOR

CARY GRANT

IN FRANK CAPRA'S

ARSENIC and OLD LACE

the new N.Y. Strand recor

with

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Jack L. Warner, *Executive Pro*

"A WOW! ONE OF THE GREA... COMEDY SMASH HITS OF ALL TIME!" HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"HILARIOUS ENTERTAINMENT. WILL BE MUCH TALKED ABOUT AND EXCEEDINGLY HEAVILY PATRONIZED!" DAILY VARIETY

"WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE WINNING A RATING AS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR FILMS OF THE YEAR! RAISES A STORM OF LAUGHTER IN A BREATHLESS PACE FROM FIRST MOMENT TO LAST! NATURAL FOR BULGING GROSSES!" FILM DAILY

"TERRIFIC MASS ENTERTAINMENT IN THE CAPRA MANNER. CRAMMED WITH EXCITEMENT, THRILLS, LAUGHS! TOP-BRACKET!" SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"A THRILLER-DILLER DEFINITELY IN THE HIGHER BRACKETS!" VARIETY

"HAS THE STUFF FOR RESOUNDING BOXOFFICE SUCCESS! NO END OF LAUGHS!" THE INDEPENDENT

"IT WILL REGALE WHO KNOWS HOW MANY TIMES ITS LEGIT THEATRE AUDIENCES!" M.P. DAILY

...older!

"OFFERS SHOWMEN A FIELD-DAY! EXCELLENT!" MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"HEADED FOR THE BIGGER GROSSES. ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON!" THE EXHIBITOR

...ired by FRANK CAPRA

...Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein • From the Stage Play by JOSEPH ...RJNG • Produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse • Music by Max Steiner

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

$4,400,000 Budget Approved by PCA

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 13.—A production budget of $4,400,000 has been approved by the Producers Corporation of America directorate for the five scripts nearing completion by that company for United Artists release, Sig Schlager, president of PCA, announced here upon his return from a special board meeting in Phoenix.

Production plans call for the placing of one production before the cameras approximately every three months, with "O'Brien's Navy" first, starting Oct. 15.

The second, to go into production Dec. 15, will be "This Crazy, Lovely World," based on the Ladislas Fodor play. This production will carry a budget allotment of $1,100,000. Subject to color availability, "Remington" is scheduled as the third production and is slated to start in March. "Insincerely Yours," formerly titled "The Greeks Had a Word for It," will replace "Remington" in the event color delays cause suspension of that production. Final production in the group will be "Escape from Beauty," based on the Collier serial by Peter Paul O'Mara.

Marines' 'Mariana' a Thrilling Film

(*Continued from page* 1)

pening. It has less talk and more action than its battle film predecessors.

Over 220 full reels were shot by Marine cameramen, six of whom were killed in action in the taking of Saipan, Tinian Islands and Guam. In the sequences showing Jap civilians coming down from the hills to surrender, there is a particularly touching shot of an American soldier carrying a sleeping Japanese child.

Capt. Clyde Devinna and Lt. John F. Leopold were in charge of the production, originally intended for military intelligence and training purposes only. Reels were edited by Rex Steele of Warners, under supervision of Lt. Col. George M. Pierce.

Agnew Predicts 10 Million for 'SYWA'

(*Continued from page* 1)

tol Theatre here than did "GWTW" at the same house, and that it broke the record of the United Artists Theatre in San Francisco by more than $4,000.

Agnew released the following figures on "SYWA" grosses: more than $80,000 per week for the first seven weeks in New York, $87,000 in less than four weeks in San Francisco; $10,422 in its opening week at the Mayfair in Trenton, where the previous high was $8,193, and $2,597 for a new opening-week record in Atlantic City.

'U' Will Spend Five Millions on Studio

(*Continued from page* 1)

be converted into storage space for "props."

The program calls for new buildings. The studio has 235 acres at its command and, therefore, has all the ground required for its purposes.

AAA Board Affirms Buffalo Arbitrator

The New York Appeal Board of the American Arbitration Association has affirmed the award of the Buffalo tribunal in the clearance complaint by Basil Brothers Theatres, operator of the Apollo, Buffalo, against the five consenting companies.

In the complaint, Basil alleged that the 14 days' clearance of the Elmwood theatre, operated by Buffalo Theatres, Inc., an intervenor, over the Apollo, was unreasonable and asked that it be eliminated. The arbitrator reduced the clearance to 10 days after the Elmwood. The complainant then appealed, with Loew's and Paramount and the intervenors asking that the award be affirmed. RKO, Warners and 20th Century-Fox asked that the award be set aside and that the previous clearance be established. M. M. Konczakowski and Grenor Corp., respectively, operator and owner of the Regent theatre, Buffalo, was the other intervenor.

One Complaint Filed
Award Rendered

A clearance complaint has been filed in the Chicago tribunal by Nick De Luca, operator of the Norwal Theatre, Chicago, against the five consenting companies, it was reported here yesterday by the American Arbitration Association.

The complaint alleged that under the Chicago releasing arrangement the Norwal was entitled to play pictures during the same week of release as the following theatres: Wallace, Ritz, Metropole, Milda, Ranova and Loomis, all in Chicago. The complainant pointed out that he charges a 35-cent admission, while the other houses have a lower price scale, and claimed that present release of films to the others is unfair and unreasonable.

The AAA also disclosed that Bruce W. Sanborn, arbitrator in the Minneapolis tribunal, ruled on a clearance complaint against all five distributors filed in behalf of Paul Mans and Donald O'Reilly's Hudson theatre, Hudson, Wis. Clearance of the Falls theatre, River Falls, Wis., the arbitrator ruled, over the Hudson shall be seven days, provided the Falls begins its runs not later than 14 days after availability. Miner and Chamberlain, operators of the Falls, were the intervenors.

Jacob Baker, 58, Dies

CLEVELAND, Sept. 13.—Jacob Baker, 58, one of the first newsreel cameramen in Cleveland, died at his home in Lakewood recently. Shortly before his death he had completed designs for a new type of aerial bomb which had been accepted by the Government. Surviving are his wife, Christina; three sons, Berman, Jacob and John, the latter with the Coast Guard, and two daughters, Juliana and Cora.

Richman, Writer, Dies

Arthur Richman, 58, died Sunday in Lenox Hill Hospital after a short illness. Richman, a playwright, was the author of several screen plays, including "The Awful Truth," produced by Columbia. He was a member of the American Theatre Wing, Authors League of America and the American Dramatists and Composers. He is survived by a son, John Marshall Richman.

Ramsaye Predicts 16mm Advance

Use of 16mm films to extend "the service of the camera and the screen into a wider career" than 35mm films may ever achieve, is predicted by Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* in an article in the current issue of *Movie Makers,* magazine of the Amateur Cinema League.

"There can indeed come a day when the 16mm film will be the standard by sheer weight of its preponderance in the field," Ramsaye writes. Pointing out that the motion picture has come to dominance in the field of entertainment "because it is the best way, evolved down through the ages, to tell a story," he says that, for the same reason, the screen now "tends to take over the function of telling for other industries, arts and sciences" and that the principal instrument of that process is the 16mm film. "The film must become almost as universally available as the printing press, and the printing press devotes only a fraction of its capacity to fiction and entertainment output," the author reasons.

Growing Status of 16mm.

Reviewing the present growing status of 16 mm, Ramsaye says, "This competent, economic smaller film has arrived at theatres of its own in areas where it can serve with particular advantage. This little film is at work in laboratory and factory too, both for recording and exhibition. It flies in warplanes, to record the flight of tracer bullets. It records and reports for the FBI. It is the film of universal service."

Noting, too, that the 16mm medium is the instrument of those who make pictures for diversion and exercise of the creative impulse, Ramsaye writes that, "for all of its years, the industry has been lacking a background of amateur endeavor from which competent professionals might be evolved. The 16mm film is changing all that. It is opening a way for experiment and entry."

Legion Classifies Nine New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "San Diego, I Love You," Universal; "Utah Kid," Monogram; A-2, "Arsenic and Old Lace," Warners; "Call of the Jungle," Monogram; "End of the Road," Republic; "My Buddy," Republic; "Oh, What a Night," Monogram; "When Strangers Marry," Monogram, and Class B, "Rainbow Island," Paramount.

WPB OK's New House

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—The War Production Board has granted permission to K-B Amusement Co. to construct a new 1,000-seat theatre in Southeast Washington, according to Frank Boucher, general manager for the circuit. The house will be the fifth K-B theatre here. John J. Zink is the architect. The opening is planned for Jan. 1.

Union Marks 50th Year

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 13.—The Rochester Theatrical Protective Union, IATSE, Local 25, held its 50th anniversary banquet yesterday at the Hotel Seneca here. Henry Malone was chairman of arrangements.

British Plan Pooling Of All Studio Space

(*Continued from page* 1)

gun, with the small Twickenham studio heading the list, and a joint BOT-BFPA committee is being formed to handle the space allotment, application for which is invited by BOT from all producers able to find enough labor and equipment to operate.

Today's agreement was foreshadowed by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 2, when authoritative sources here mentioned it as a step that would be taken in anticiptaion of legislative proposals.

The monopoly committee also called for the establishment of a Film Finance Corp. to which all duly accredited and qualified producers might have access for the money needed to make pictures.

The Elstree studio also has been re-requisitioned by the Government, according to a statement made by Robert S. Wolff, RKO managing director for Great Britain, and published by MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Thursday, following Wolff's arrival in New York from London.

GSS Cautious on Studio Expansion

(*Continued from page* 1)

production. It is felt that a multiplicity of possible changes in conditions, such as tax legislation, which have been accounted responsible for an increase or decrease in independent production in the past, will control this trend following the peace.

General Service is used by Stromberg Productions, Samuel Bronston, Charles R. Rogers, Bogeaus Productions, Angeles Productions, Bing Crosby Productions, Lester Cowan, Producers Corporation of America, Arnold Pressburger, Andrew Stone, and others.

Smith to Resume Post In Paris for MPPDA

(*Continued from page* 1)

is understood, is the continuance of the Paris area as a zone of military operations.

Smith, prior to the outbreak of war in Europe, represented the MPPDA abroad for some 12 years. He will act as liaison of the industry to foreign governments and aid American embassies abroad on film matters when they are reestablished.

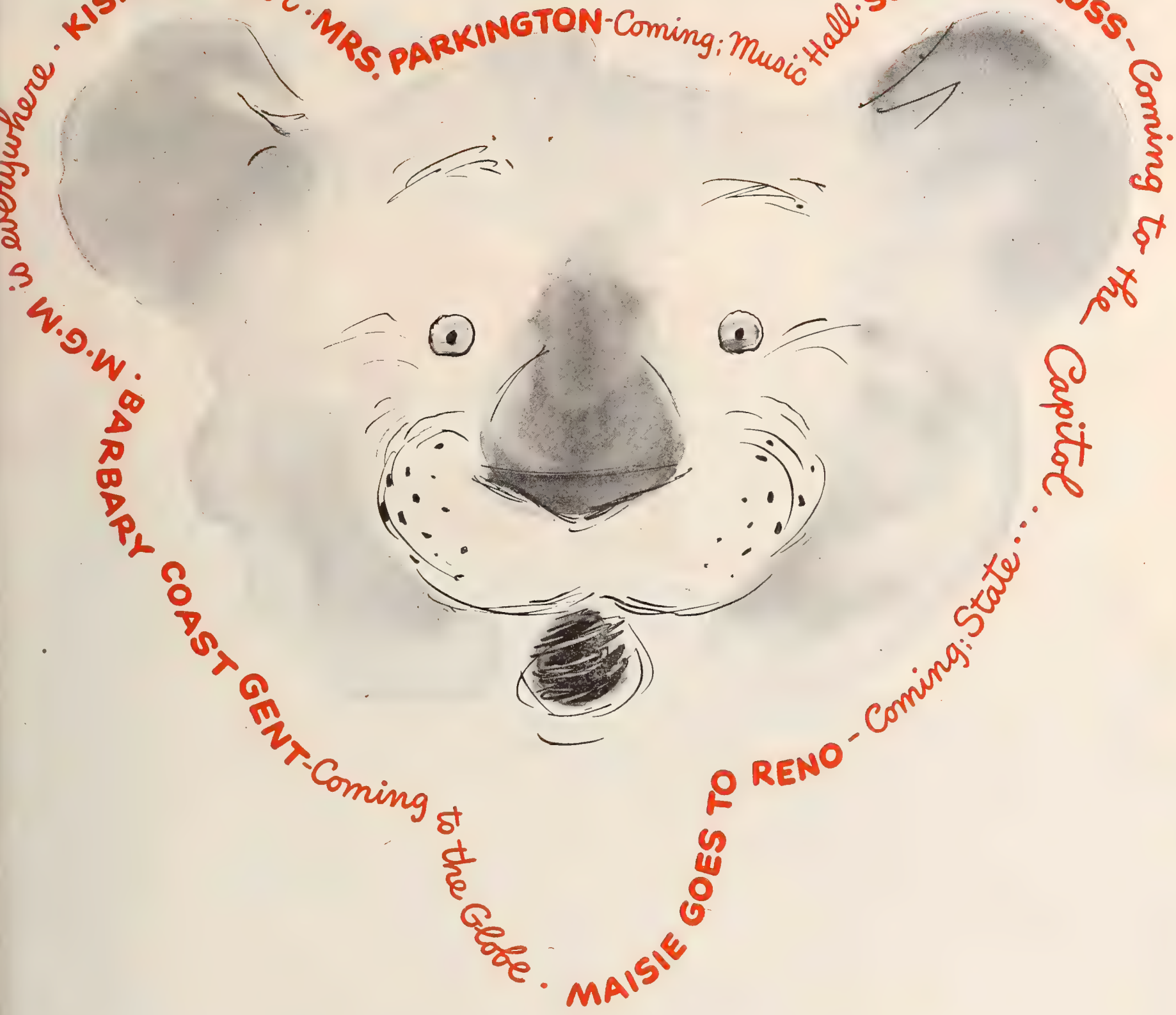
Singer Named Bond Assistant to Hertz

(*Continued from page* 1)

more specific and factual than any yet developed for a war loan drive. "We realize," he added, "that exhibitors face a great responsibility in this campaign. The book will be designed to help them meet this responsibility with the best showmanship equipment at our command."

F-WC Alcazar Burned

BELL, CALIF., Sept. 13.—Fire gutted Fox-West Coast's Alcazar Theatre today, causing an estimated $50,000 damage.



THE MAP OF BROADWAY!

He's the Mainstay of Every Main Stem!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE GOOD TO BE MGM A LEADER FOR TWENTY YEARS

Keep Selling Bonds!



They've Started On Their Fun-Raising

"A WAVE, A WAC

ON BROADWAY IT TOOK A FIVE-STORY BUILDING TO HOLD THIS GIANT BILLBOARD AT THE VICTORIA!

NEW YORK WILL SURRENDER UNCONDITIONALLY, CALL OUT THE ARMY, THE NAVY, THE MARINES!

A WAVE A WAC AND A MARINE

A MONOGRAM PICTURE

NO MESSAGE
JUST BARRELS OF
FUN and JIVE
TO MAKE YOU HAPPY
YOU'RE ALIVE

NO BATTLE SCENES
JUST LOVE
IT'S A 21

VICTORIA

IT'S A 21 GUN SALUTE TO FUN
LOVE LAUGHTER & COMEDY
"A WAVE A WAC AND A MARINE"
EXTRA FORTRESS JAPAN

IT'S A 21 GUN SALUTE
"A WAVE A WAC
& A MARINE"

MONOGRAM PICTURES

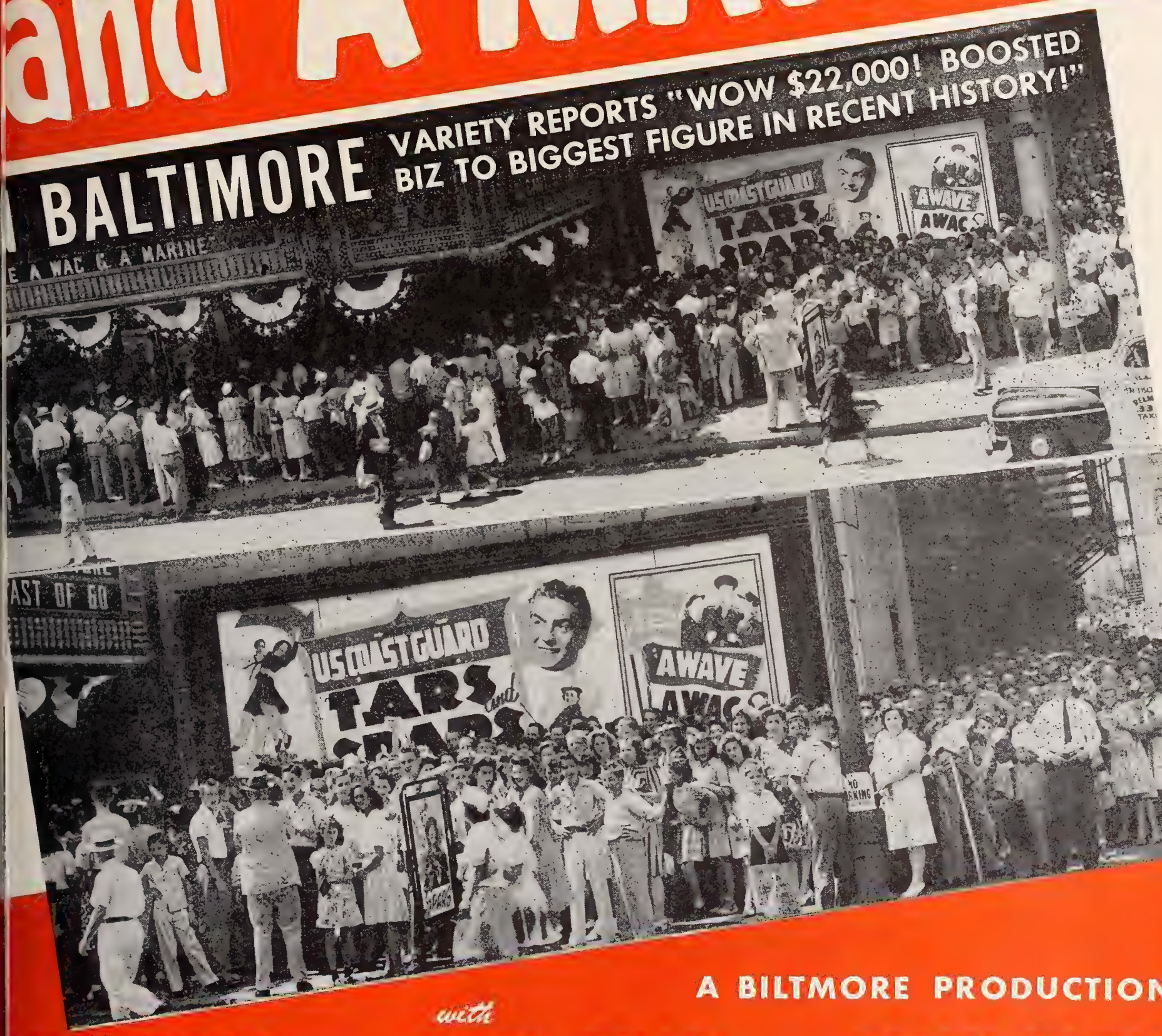
Another MONEY HIT FROM MONOGRA

"And How!" says Monogram!

ove-Chasing, Money-Making Way!

and A MARINE"

BALTIMORE VARIETY REPORTS "WOW $22,000! BOOSTED BIZ TO BIGGEST FIGURE IN RECENT HISTORY!"



A BILTMORE PRODUCTION

with

LYSE KNOX • ANNE GILLIS • SALLY EILERS

ICHARD LANE • RAMSAY AMES • HENNY YOUNGMAN

MARJORIE WOODWORTH • "RED" MARSHALL

REDDIE RICH and HIS ORCHESTRA with CONNIE HAINES •

duced by Edward SHERMAN Directed by Phil KARLSTEIN Executive Producer Sebastian CRISTIANI

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Aug. 19	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Seventh Block) ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE Mickey Rooney Lewis Stone C—107 mins. (424) GASLIGHT Ingrid Bergman Charles Boyer D—114 mins. (425) MEET THE PEOPLE Dick Powell Lucille Ball M—100 mins. (426) THREE MEN IN WHITE Lionel Barrymore Van Johnson D—85 mins. (427) TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR Jimmy Durante Van Johnson C—126 mins. (428)	CALL OF THE JUNGLE Ann Corio D—60 mins. (333)	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326) TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327) THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330) HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328) I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)			(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45) SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases) TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501) WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)		IN SOCIETY Abbott and Costello Marion Hutton Arthur Treacher C—75 mins. (8001)	
Aug. 26	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—72 mins. (5002)		LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O								JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C—74 mins. (5025)		OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)		CASTLE OF CRIMES Keneth Kent Diana Churchill D—(513) (1944-45)	RIDE, RANGER, RIDE (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3306)				GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins. (9005)	CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D—61 mins. (5033) COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(6201) (1944-'45)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)			THAT'S MY BABY Richard Arlen Ellen Drew D—68 mins. (328)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)			MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (9022) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	(Eighth Block) (incomplete) BATHING BEAUTY Red Skelton Esther Williams M—101 mins. (429) (Color) CANTERVILLE GHOST Chas. Laughton Margaret O'Brien C—95 mins. (430)	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)			STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503)		PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—69 mins. (9019) (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Sept. 23	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—(1944-'45)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D—(1944-'45)	(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—(1944-'45)	STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—(1944-'45)		TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402)		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)					
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—(1944-'45)	(Ninth Block) (Incomplete) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501) BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502) MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504) WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503) MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505) KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—(1944-'45) ALASKA Kent Taylor Margaret Lindsay D—(1944-'45)	OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404) DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)	CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) (1944-'45)	(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D			THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030) (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(404) (1944-'45)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—(1944-'45)				BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—(1944-'45)	STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Eric Von Stroheim D—86 mins. (323)	NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen D	(Third Block) (1944-'45) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506) IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507) IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—(508)		BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Kirby Grant M—70 mins.	
Oct. 21					WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—(1944-'45)					THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff D 86 mins.	
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—(1944-'45)			(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)							

AN EXPLOITATION NATURAL!

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

Lights Go On in Britain Sept. 17 On Relaxation of Long Blackout

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, Sept. 6 — Britain's blackout, generally agreed to be the most depressing of her many wartime restrictions and a cause of many accidents, is to be almost h... Sept. 17, when ... sum... ti... too...

...vil... ...g... ...es that have occupied much of ... ...are time of some millio... ...

the blackout will be replaced by half-lighting, with peacetime curtains and blinds instead of the funereal drapes of wartime. Street lights will be improved and motor ca... bicycles will be allowe... pa... th... not full illumin... tio...

...t the librettist who announc... that "T... goi... to get lit up wh... ...g... ...n in London" ... h...

TIMELY— TOPICAL— TERRIFIC!

A TITLE
THAT EXPRESSES
THE HOPES
OF MILLIONS

SONG TIE-UPS
STAR NAMES
SURE FIRE THEME

Book it Now—

PRINTS AVAILABLE
AT ALL
PRC EXCHANGES



CASH IN ON THIS GREAT EXPLOITATION SPECIAL!



Everybody loves San Diego I Love You

DAILY VARIETY says:

"Universal has a money picture in SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU. Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, both as producers and writers, drew heavily upon zany comedy situations to put it over, and with Reginald Le Borg's direction falling into line entire cast headed by Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton and Edward Everett Horton fully aware of their opportunities, feature is sock entertainment, calculated to hit handsome mark at box-office."



THEY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 53 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

20th to Spend 3½ Millions to Improve Plant

12 Stages to Be Added, Schenck Reports

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Overcrowded for many months, 20th Century-Fox is awaiting the easing of military requirements and the subsequent release of materials to embark upon a studio construction and improvement program calling for 12 new stages as well as additional projection and editing rooms and a theatre to train young talent, Joseph M. Schenck, executive in charge of production, declares. Schenck estimates the new program will cost about $3,500,000.

The proposed stages will bring the studio's total to 30 and will be built without need to demolish any existing stages or buildings. The program, according to Schenck, is in line with plans resolved before the start of the war. "Hostilities caught up with us

(*Continued on page 3*)

$525,000 Goldwyn Studio Improvement

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—A large double stage, divisible into two smaller ones, which will increase the total to nine, is contemplated as part of a $525,000 program of expansion and improvement at the Goldwyn Studio, centrally located at Santa Monica Boulevard and North Formosa Avenue in Hollywood.

Plans, like those for the improvement or enlargement of other Hollywood studios, must await the release

(*Continued on page 3*)

Australians Slash Film Ads 35-50%

Despite a reduction of from 35 to 50 per cent in space allotted for film advertising by Australian newspapers, there has been no diminution of theatre attendance from its wartime peak, Harry Hunter, Paramount managing director for Australia and New Zealand, declared in an interview here yesterday.

Although a ceiling on film rentals has been in effect since Sept., 1942, it is subject to change, Hunter indicated, by making application to the government, which recognizes that

(*Continued on page 3*)

The Wind Rose, Receipts Dove

The gale hit this Atlantic Coast area last night at dusk, preceded, by a few hours, by hurricane warnings of the meteorologists which sent the working populace of cities affected scurrying homeward early and kept those at home close to the hearth. The net result, theatrewise: Downtown and neighborhood houses had an extremely quiet evening.

At evening show - hour Broadway and the side streets of Times Square were all but deserted. Reports from other cities in the areas affected disclosed that Main Streets were similarly empty.

Special Code For Theatres

New York State Labor Department officials, meeting here today with theatre circuit representatives on the state's pending new building code, will be receptive of the idea of changing the existing tentative draft of the code in order to place film theatres in a classification separate from night clubs, road houses and stage theatres, it was

(*Continued on page 3*)

OWI Boosts Print Order for Wider Foreign Distribution

The Office of War Information overseas film bureau here has requested distributors to step up print deliveries of the 40 features now being distributed in liberated Italy from seven prints for each feature to 20. It is understood that the individual companies have acceded to the request, conditional, of course, on the ability of OWI to secure the additional raw stock. A meeting of company foreign department heads will be held soon, at which time it is expected that they will jointly vote approval of the request.

OWI's overseas film bureau, which originally asked for 10 prints for each of the 16 dubbed features for which it is currently negotiating with distribu-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Expect Raw Stock 'Gift' to Industry

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—A possible WPB "Christmas present" for the industry in the shape of adidtional film above the 320,000,000 feet allocations toward the end of the year may materialize, it was disclosed today by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the War Production Board photographic section. All available information indicates that company raw stock quotas for the coming quarter will be at levels previously set forth.

First of Exchange Help Contracts Are Approved

The regional War Labor Board here has approved the first joint application of eight distributors and the IATSE to institute a system of 18 job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales for office workers of exchanges. The approval was for Albany workers and similar applications are pending in 19 other exchange cities with the remaining 11 applications expected to be filed next week, eventually bringing an estimated $400,000 in back pay to some 3,000 exchange "white collar" workers. The new classification also involves a minimum 10 per cent wage increase. Republic is expected to accept similar conditions for its exchange workers.

The 18 job classifications for eight different types of workers range from general clerks to head bookers and have wage scales ranging from $24 to $85 in large cities, with slightly lower scales in smaller cities. Negotiations and submission of contracts to the RWLBs are being handled by Joseph D. Basson for the IATSE, and David Halper of Judge Matthew M. Levy's law firm, IATSE attorney.

לשנה טובה תכתבו

1944 5705

Theatres Only Part-covered For Peace Riot

Those with 'Commotion' Clauses Unprotected

Theatres are protected against property losses from any "V-Day" rioting or over-enthusiastic demonstrators only if their fire insurance policies contain "vandalism and malicious mischief" clauses, but probably are not covered if the policies are limited to "riot and civilian commotion."

Inquiries among circuit and independent theatre operators and theatre insurance specialists disclose that the subject of V-Day property damage protection is one of much current speculation on the extent of protection that might be secured under existing insurance codicils.

Alfred M. Best Co., operating an

(*Continued on page 3*)

C. A. Buckley, FWC Executive, Dies

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14.—Charles A. Buckley, vice-president and chief counsel of Fox West Coast Theatres, died of a heart attack at his home here yesterday. Although first stricken a year ago, he was believed to be recovering and had resumed his duties in part.

A native of Spring Valley, N. Y., Buckley came here in 1926 to join Fox West Coast and has been with the circuit ever since. He is survived

(*Continued on page 3*)

Dembow Presides at NSS Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—Sales staffs and branch managers of National Screen exchanges in the Midwest are at the Blackstone Hotel today for the opening of a regional meeting, second of a series of three. Again the meeting will highlight the "George Dembow Tribute," the NSS sales drive for 1944, honoring National's vice-president in charge of sales, who is presiding. The meeting will continue through Sunday.

A third regional will be held in Los Angeles, Sept. 22-24.

Personal Mention

DARRYL F. ZANUCK, vice-president in charge of production of 20th Century-Fox, entrained yesterday for Hollywood.

•

HARRY ARTHUR, president of FANCHON and MARCO, has become a grandfather. A son was born to LIEUT. TOM and NANCY ARTHUR. LIEUT. ARTHUR having completed 50 missions with the Army Air Force over enemy territory, is en route to the United States.

•

ROBERT J. O'DONNELL and RICHARD KENNEDY, Dallas; JOHN FRIEDL, Minneapolis, and RAY BEALL, heads of the Fifth War Loan national committee, in New York for conferences with the executive staff of the Sixth War Loan, will leave today for their homes.

•

DEON DE TITTA, veteran chief projectionist of 20th Century-Fox, celebrates today his 28th year with the company and his 32nd wedding anniversary. The DE TITTAS have three sons in the armed forces.

•

CHARLES KURTZMAN and W. A. FINNEY, M-G-M district managers in Boston and Atlanta, respectively, were in home office conference with J. R. VOGEL this week.

•

W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, will return to the home office today after a six weeks' trip to exchanges under his supervision.

•

CHARLES SNYDER, manager of the WB Lenox Theatre, Hartford, is engaged to be married to NINA AIRD, manager of the Stanley, Pittsburgh.

•

LEO KATCHER, publicity director for Vanguard Films, left yesterday for Chicago, and will then proceed to Hollywood.

•

HAZEL SLORIEN, manager of the Strand Theatre, Winsted, Conn., has returned from a vacation in New Hampshire.

•

EARL KERR, owner of theatres in the Iowa area, is the father of a boy, EARL, JR.

•

HERMAN GLUCKMAN, WAC treasurer, has returned to New York after two months in Hollywood.

Columbia's Lipsky Back to Caribbean

Despite the war, people of the Caribbean countries are showing continued preference for action pictures based on the global conflict, Louis Lipsky, manager for Columbia Pictures in the Caribbean area, said before leaving here this week aboard the Trinidad Clipper for Port of Spain, where he is stationed. Musicals and cartoons are next on the list, he added. Lipsky had been in New York on business.

Hollywood Bolstering Its Few War Pictures

Hollywood, Sept. 14.—Hollywood studios will not scrap production or release plans for the comparatively few war subjects scheduled, but will bolster them with enhanced production and greater star appeal.

Of the 462 films tentatively announced or scheduled for 1944-45 by the 11 companies, only 23 have war themes, mostly dealing with the Japanese war, the homefront or the postwar.

B'nai B'rith Opens Servicemen's Center

A recreation center for servicemen of the 1240th Army Military Police detachment, sponsored by Cinema Lodge No. 1366, B'nai B'rith, will be dedicated here tonight.

Speakers will include Lt. Col. John A. McNulty, CMP, commanding officer and provost marshall of New York; Alfred W. Schwalberg, honorary president; Albert A. Senft, president of Cinema, and S. Arthur Glixon, chairman of B'nai B'rith's Metropolitan War Service Committee. Music will be furnished by the orchestra of the 716th Military Police Battalion.

Midelburg Brochure On Studio Visit

M-G-M is sending to exhibitors an elaborate 38-page brochure of pictures telling the story of the visit to the company's studios made by Charles A. Midelburg, M-G-M's 'typical showman', in connection with Leo's 20th anniversary celebration last June 22.

Beginning with a view of Midelburg's Capitol Theatre, Charleston, W. Va., which he has operated since 1924, the book shows the exhibitor meeting Louis B. Mayer and Eddie Mannix at the studio and his appearances with stars on sets.

Berg Is Liaison In 6th War Loan

Herbert S. Berg, veteran trade paper reporter and now United Artists trade paper contact, was named yesterday as the news disseminating source for the Sixth War Loan, working in association with publicity-advertising director John Hertz, Jr.

Berg, loaned by Carl Leserman, UA executive, will make his headquarters at WAC shortly.

Kestenbaum Joins Columbia Monday

Samuel Kestenbaum, recently resigned from the post of PRC field exploitation manager will join Columbia Monday in the exploitation department under Harry McWilliams.

Before joining PRC Kestenbaum was associated with the advertising and publicity departments of Republic, Grand National, Monogram, and others.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 14

PARAMOUNT has signed Lillian Gish to an optional contract for two pictures annually for the next five years.

•

Monogram has signed Phil Regan to a two-year contract. His first production will be "From Land of Sky Blue Water," based on the Charles Wakefield Cadman song.

•

Russell Holman and Richard Mealand have arrived from New York for Paramount studio conferences.

•

Twentieth-Fox has purchased "Fallen Angel," a novel. Otto Preminger is scheduled to produce.

Mrs. Spitz 'Night of Stars' Women's Head

Mrs. Leo Spitz, who will arrive here from Hollywood early next week, has been named head of the women's division for the 11th anniversary of "Night of Stars," scheduled for Madison Square Garden here Nov. 14, with the proceeds going to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Honorary chairmen include Mrs. Sypros Skouras, Mrs. Louis B. Mayer, Mrs. Eddie Cantor, Mrs. H. A. Guinzburg, Mrs. Ted Lewis, Mrs. Roger W. Straus, Mrs. Joseph Stroock and Sophie Tucker. Active co-chairmen are Mrs. Hal Horne, Mrs. Max Baller, Mrs. Frank S. Levi and Mrs. A. Loeb Salkin. Among the asociate chairmen are Mrs. Barney Balaban, Mrs. William Goetz, Mrs. Michael Addison, Mrs. Ben Bernie, Fanny Brice and Mrs. Damon Runyon.

Seek Wage Boost for 75 Projectionists

Representatives of film companies met here yesterday on the demand of the IATSE New York projectionists' Local 306 for a wage increase for 75 members employed in home offices and New York exchange booths. The meeting was held in the office of Major L. E. Thompson of RKO. The companies have taken the demands under advisement.

At a hearing before the State Labor Relations Board, Local 306 presented arguments on its petition to be declared the collective bargaining agent for 100 projectionists in the 35 Century circuit houses in Brooklyn and Queens.

Luncheon for Miss Ryan

Members of the press were guests yesterday at a luncheon at the Hampshire House here given by Universal for Peggy Ryan, star of "The Merry Monahans" and Lou Goldberg, who will be co-producer of the forthcoming Universal production, "On Stage Everybody."

Report Col. Whitney Free from Germans

Col. John Hay (Jock) Whitney, former board chairman of Selznick International Pictures, and head of Pioneer Pictures, who was reported on Aug. 31 to have been captured by the Germans "somewhere in France," either has escaped or been released by the advance of Allied troops, according to information said by press accounts here yesterday to have been received by the Whitney family.

There was no confirmation from the War Department.

NEW YORK THEATRES

ALLURING! BEWITCHING! EXCITING!
"STORM OVER LISBON"
A Republic Picture
starring
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
RICHARD ARLEN
ERICH VON STROHEIM
with Otto Kruger—Eduardo Ciannelli
Robert Livingston—Mona Barrie
AIR COOLED
REPUBLIC THEATRE
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd
Tel. Co. 5-9647

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation — Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER — TERESA WRIGHT
in International Pictures'
"CASANOVA BROWN"
FRANK MORGAN — ANITA LOUISE
Distributed through R.K.O. Radio Pictures Inc.
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Alan Marshal • Laraine Day
'BRIDE BY MISTAKE'
Marsha Hunt • Allyn Joslyn
Edgar Buchanann

STATE B'WAY
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's New Musical
'MEET THE PEOPLE'
LUCILLE BALL
DICK POWELL
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
& HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
TOMMY DIX

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
"WILSON"
in TECHNICOLOR
Directed by Henry King
Written for the Screen by Lamar Trotti
A 20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
On the Roxy Stage
FRED WARING and His Pennsylvanians with augmented company of 100
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
ROXY THEATRE

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OWI Boosts Print Order for Wider Foreign Distribution

(Continued from page 1)

ors, has also raised its request to 30 prints of each dubbed film. Raw stock for the prints will be secured from OWI's quarterly allocations with the transfer made by job orders to the individual companies, who will sustain the cost.

Abnormal conditions prevailing in Italy and a continuing lack of transportation facilities obtaining in that country are understood to have prompted the OWI to boost its print requirement to meet booking commitments there.

With the swift liberation of France it is held inevitable that OWI's overseas film bureau will need additional prints for its expanding distribution in that country. Requests for additional raw stock allocations are expected to complicate the already tight raw film situation. The War Production Board is meeting in Washington today with representatives of the 11 companies, at which time final allocations of raw stock for prints here are expected to be determined for the remainder of the year.

3½-Million Outlay For 20th's Studio

(Continued from page 1)

before we could execute our plans," Schenck said.

The full economies of production have not been possible because of limited floor area with the result many sets are being struck to make way for new ones rather than to keep many of them standing for readaptation and future use, Schenck points out. The stages contemplated are designed to meet this need and others. The theatre will be a full-scale affair, completely equipped like a Broadway house and provide a permanent training school for new talent, he added.

The company, moreover, is not confronted with the need to acquire new ground for its expansion. It owns the golf course to the east of the studio, reaching along Pico Boulevard and doubling back to Olympic Boulevard. The ground already has been leveled. Schenck says there are 200 additional acres available.

$525,000 Goldwyn Studio Improvement

(Continued from page 1)

of materials. The new stage will be air-cooled and probably will be built in the general area of the back lot where space is already available. Additional projects for the studios include: A new office building, probably replacing some of the present space devoted to offices but to accommodate one-third more occupants than available now, estimated cost, $100,000; sound devices and other new mechanical devices now restricted, estimated cost, $150,000; improvements in existing lighting equipment, replacement of worn lighting equipment, estimated cost, $100,000.

Review

"The Last Ride"

(Warners)

THE significance of this action-packed melodrama was pretty well lost in the time that elapsed between the production's completion, subsequent shelving, and present release. It deals with the black market in tires and is placed at the time when such bootlegging was at its peak, before the commercialization of synthetic rubber.

The plot, not a new one, concerns a ring of tire racketeers. Chief investigator on the case is Richard Travis, whose brother, Charles Lang, is 'finger-man' for the crooks. Four youths are killed, two when four high-priced, but low-grade tires blow as they are rounding a corner at 90 m.p.h., and two, potential police witnesses, by a well placed bomb. Travis, faking a quarrel with his police department, joins the racketeers to get evidence. Cy Kendall, a captain in the department, and head of the racketeers, discovers Travis' ruse and is about to kill him when Lang's apparently deep-seated, but previously well hidden loyalty to his brother, prompts him to shoot Kendall, being shot himself in the showdown.

Raymond L. Schrock's original screen play is laden with suspense and punctuated with action, but his original premise is weak. D. Ross Lederman directed with competence and keeps things moving rapidly. Travis, Lang and Kendall perform with skill, ably supported by Jack LaRue, Eleanor Parker, Wade Boteler and Mary Gordon.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 7.

HELEN MCNAMARA.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Schine Cites Need To Build Patronage

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 14.—J. Myer Schine, circuit head, stressed the importance of retaining present theatre patronage and building upon it for the post-war period when more time can be devoted to showmanship, at the meeting here yesterday of Schine circuit personnel.

The meeting this year is being conducted by zone men and theatre managers rather than circuit executives as in previous years. Among the speakers at today's sessions were Gus Lampe, zone manager, whose topic was "Let's Get Back to Pre-War Showmanship"; Seymour Morris, advertising manager, who talked on "Being a Victory Showman"; and Louis Lazar, general manager, who conducted a "V-Day" discussion and announced a program which calls for Schine theatres to remain open on that day "since they can be of great value in keeping people off the streets."

T. Hogg, of the General Electric's television research department, talked to the group on television.

Furth Charges RKO With Plagiarism

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Otto Furth, playwright, today filed suit against RKO Radio Pictures and Playmarket, Inc., for $1,000,000, charging "Tom, Dick and Harry," was deliberate plagiarism of his manuscript "Dorothea with Variations."

Malone Seeks Added Overseas Talent

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—James H. Malone of the Special Services branch of the Army arrived today to enlist additional Hollywood participation in increasing the entertainment program for overseas.

FP-C Redeems Bonds, Odeon Sells Some

TORONTO, Sept. 14.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has called in $236,000 in bonds of the four and one-half per cent series maturing in 1951, to be redeemed by Oct. 19 at par value and two per cent premium and current interest allowance. Their retirement is understood to be in preparation for financing of postwar theatre projects.

Odeon Theatres, Ltd., has announced a public issue of $289,200 in five per cent first mortgage bonds of a subsidiary, Theatre Properties (Hamilton), Ltd., which purchased the Capitol and Palace Theatres in Hamilton, Ont., last Spring from Hamilton United Theatres. Odeon has been operating the theatres for three years under a lease.

Suggests Grand Nat'l Bankruptcy Reopen

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14.—Reopening of bankruptcy proceedings against Grand National Films, Inc., and Grand National Studios, Inc., "in view of the fact that there is an indication that there will be some funds available to the creditors of Education Pictures, Inc.," is suggested by Loyd Wright, former trustee, in a communication to Grand National creditors.

Wright suggests that a trustee be appointed and proceedings be instituted in time to be represented at an Educational Pictures fund distribution set for Sept. 26.

Australians Slash Film Ads 35-50%

(Continued from page 1)

changing conditions in certain communities and the quality of product would necessarily vary the selling price of films. Since admissions are also "pegged" in Australia, "For Whom the Bell Tolls" could not be released at advanced roadshow prices identical to showings here, he said, but will be released in that country when it starts its popular price run.

Theatres Partially Covered for 'Riots'

(Continued from page 1)

insurance industry information service here, quotes the Explosion Conference decision that "property losses from V-Day celebrations might be covered under the customary vandalism and malicious mischief endorsement or supplemental contracts." The Explosion Conference is a regulatory association of representatives of a number of insurance companies.

On the other hand, a spokesman for the Samuels Agency, Inc., which handles theatre accounts, points out that the "riot and civilian commotion" clause, which, it was said, are held by most houses, applies only when more than three persons cooperate in doing damage, and that the clause would leave an owner unprotected against damage by individual celebrants.

The firm of Mitchell May, Jr., likewise a film industry insurance specialist, holds, however, that instead of increasing protection for V-Day, theatres should be shuttered if any evidence of rowdyism develops.

Special Building Code for Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

indicated here yesterday by Abraham H. Goodman, state deputy industrial commissioner.

Replying to reports that circuit managements are alarmed over the present draft because it would govern all places of public assembly and would impose considerable structural alterations upon some 1,200 theatres. Goodman said the present draft was largely a basis for further discussion.

The committee meeting today with Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi, Goodman and other officials, will consist of Louis Lazar, Schine circuit; Harry Moskowitz, Loew's, and Henry Anderson, Paramount, with Martin J. Tracey of the Century circuit as alternate. Richard S. Hayes of the IATSE is also expected to be present.

J. Henry Walters, RKO attorney, who was instrumental in bringing the proposed regulations to the attention of theatre interests, stressed yesterday that the code now in the making applies only to communities that do not have local codes.

C. A. Buckley, FWC Executive, Dies

(Continued from page 1)

by one sister, Miss Katherine Buckley, Spring Valley.

Rosary services for Buckley will be held tomorrow evening and a requiem mass at St. Basil's Church, Saturday morning. The body will be shipped to Spring Valley, N. Y., for interment. The Fox West Coast offices will close tomorrow in tribute to Buckley.

Curran Joins Wilding

Lieut. Charles W. Curran, USNR, recently released from active service after two years, has joined Wilding Productions as script-writer. Curran will spend three months in Chicago, after which he will transfer to New York.

OF THE 642 PICTURES TO PLAY THE ROXY IN ITS 17½ YEAR HISTORY, "WILSON" WAS THE FIRST EVER TO BE HELD OVER FOR A 6th WEEK. NOW IT CONTINUES TO BREAK PRECEDENT AND SET RECORDS BY BEING HELD FOR AN 8th WEEK!



Directed by HENRY KING · Written by LA



...the engagements of "WILSON" will soon total 100 as city a



EVERYWHERE...

FROM COAST TO COAST...

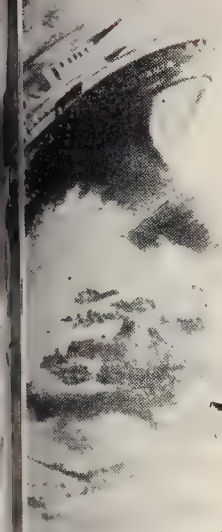
GROSSES AND ACCLAIM PROVE

BEYOND QUESTION THAT

DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S

ILSON

IN TECHNICOLOR



IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BOX-OFFICE EVENT IN 50 YEARS OF MOTION PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT!

TI

thrills to The Picture of the Century from 20th Century-Fox

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Holdovers Top L. A.; 'Way', 'Brown', Best

Los Angeles, Sept. 14.—Holdovers, doing well, dominated box-offices here with the single new bill in town the only attraction running below par. "Going My Way," in its fourth week at the two Paramounts, was still $8,000 above average; "Casanova Brown" was doing $8,000 better than average at the Pantages and Hillstreet in its second week; and "Janie" was beating the Warner Hollywood, Downtown and Wiltern average by $4,000 in its second seven days. The weather man gave the population 103 degrees one day and 104 the next, but did not keep people away from theatres.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 13:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,200).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,500).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
FOX-WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,750).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"A Night of Adventure" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $6,200).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,700).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $30,500. (Average: $24,100).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES — (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,900).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO-International)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $16,700).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN—(50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $20,300).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,700).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $16,600).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Reckless Age" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,500).

"Janie" (WB)
WARNER BROS. HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,111. (Average: $17,000).

"Janie" (WB)
WARNER BROS. DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $22,027. (Average: $18,700).

"Janie" (WB)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,713. (Average: $15,200).

Wheeler Gets 'Nights'

Washington, Sept. 14. — Sam Wheeler's Wheeler Film Co. has acquired distribution rights to "Ten Nights in a Barroom" for Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The film is being reissued by Sack Amusement Enterprises, Dallas.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



OPENING GUN IN NATIONWIDE FASHION AND COSMETICS PROMOTION FOR **"FRENCHMAN'S CREEK"** WAS FIRED WEDNESDAY WITH LAVISH FASHION SHOW AT NEW YORK'S FAMED WALDORF-ASTORIA. GALAXY OF FASHION, BEAUTY AND WOMEN'S PAGE EDITORS SAW GORGEOUS MODELS PARADING ORIGINAL COSTUMES WORN BY JOAN FONTAINE, CO-STARRED WITH ARTURO DE CORDOVA IN THE MITCHELL LEISEN TECHNICOLOR PRODUCTION. EXHIBIT OF COSTUMES WILL TOUR LEADING DEPARTMENT STORES OF COUNTRY ON DAY-AND-DATE PICTURE BASIS TIED IN WITH BIG SCALE DOROTHY GRAY "FRENCHMAN'S RED" LIPSTICK PROMOTION.

Dinner, Parades to Promote 'Romance'

Plans for an extensive campaign to coincide with a 132-city 'world premiere' of "An American Romance" on Oct. 12 have been completed by M-G-M and radio station WLW in Cincinnati, Howard Dietz, vice-president and director of M-G-M advertising-publicity-exploitation, disclosed here yesterday.

A special preview and dinner will be held in Cincinnati Oct. 11, at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, attended by 300 guests, including M-G-M home office executives. It is also expected that Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio and Gov. Simeon Willis of Kentucky will be on hand.

Parades will be held in Cincinnati, Louisville and Indianapolis Oct. 12, featuring the Armed Forces, American Legion, Red Cross, Boy Scouts, school bands, industrial organizations, and civic leaders. Each parade will be climaxed by the christening of a bomber, which is to be purchased through the sale of war bonds.

Starting in Columbus tomorrow and winding up in Cincinnati on Oct. 14, a special "American Romance" exhibit will tour all premiere territories.

'Heavenly Days' Is Pittsburgh Lead

Pittsburgh, Sept. 14.—"Heavenly Days" is expected to gross $25,000 at the Stanley here this week. On the stage, Frankie Carl, his piano and orchestra, have top billing.

Estimated receipts for the week end-Sept. 11-15:

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, third week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Up in Arms" (Goldwyn-RKO)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $21,700).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
RITT—(1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, third week. Move over from the Warner. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days second week. Move over from the Harris. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,400).

"Heavenly Days" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days Frankie Carl on stage. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Janie" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days second week. Mover over from the Penn. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,350).

Lastfogel on Coast to Confer with HVC

Hollywood, Sept. 14.—Abe Lastfogel, president of the USO Camp Shows arrived today to confer with the Coast branch of the USO and the Hollywood Victory Committee on the proposed expanded program for hospitals and overseas.

'Blood and Guts' in Films

Hollywood, Sept. 14.—Hunt Stromberg will produce "Blood and Guts," a film based on the career of Lt. General George S. Patton. Charles Bickford will play the title role. Bob Considine is the first writer signed to develop the story.

M-G-M's NEWS OF THE DAY

CAMERAMAN BRAVED THE BULLETS!

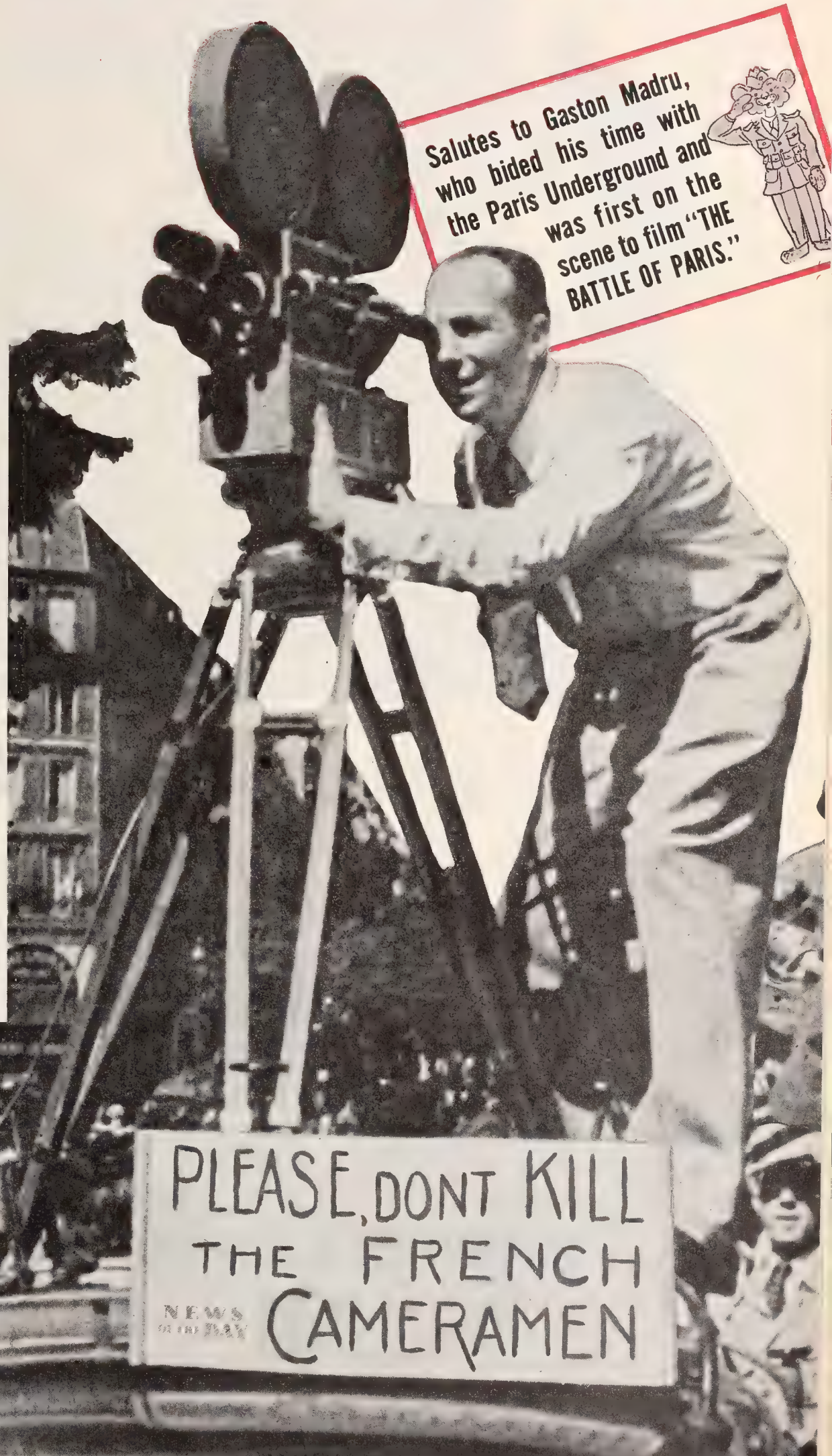
Newsreel history is made. M-G-M delivers the greatest subject on "THE BATTLE OF PARIS!"

M-G-M does it again! Following the enthusiastic reception of our D-Day newsreel which was singled out for highest praise, new honors are heaped on M-G-M's live-wire newsreel outfit by press and public for its coverage of the gripping Battle of Paris. Front page pictures in New York newspapers, special news articles reviewing the amazing footage obtained by our cameraman Gaston Madru, and by Jack Lieb and John Bockhorst, all under fire, were followed by editorials in the trade press. Never before has any newsreel won such praise. Again and again it's M-G-M's News of the Day for leadership in newsreels!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP MGM

Keep Selling Bonds!







U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Movie-Made in Lots of Ways...

TRAINING FILMS are doing wonderful work in all of our Armed Services. The technical excellence of these educational aids has much to do with their success. Their makers learned how from the movies . . . writing, acting, directing, photography—every detail of production is "professional." If you could visit one of the lots, you'd find scores of movie men on the job.

For Army use, the Signal Corps has made basic films such as "The Articles of War," "Military Courtesy," "Safeguarding Military Information" . . . how-to-do films, teaching men how to fire a 90-mm. gun, manage a gas mask, lay a field artillery battery, dig a fox hole, repair a Diesel engine. The Signal Corps also makes film bulletins combining the best features of the newsreel and the informational short, as well as many historical and documentary films.

All of the other Services depend on films for similar intensive work in their educational programs . . . all with one purpose, the most effective training of our fighting men and women. The motion picture industry can be proud of its part in this great work.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N.Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



First in Film and Radio News Brief Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 54 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1944 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE FILE COPY

Mervyn LeRoy Rejoins WB as Own Producer

Jack Warner Announces Deal with Arrowhead

Mervyn LeRoy returns to Warners after a six-year absence, with the completion of a long-term deal between Warner Bros. and LeRoy's new Arrowhead Productions, Inc., for a series of productions to be directed by LeRoy, it was announced at the weekend by Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production.

Arrowhead productions will be made at the Warner studios. Before Arrowhead starts production at Warners, LeRoy will complete direction of "The Robe" for RKO.

"LeRoy's varied talents and handling of all types of subject matter have made him one of the industry's leading creative figures," said Warner,

(*Continued on page 5*)

Lord Rothermere Joins G-B Board

LONDON, Sept. 17.—Lord Rothermere, proprietor of the *Daily Mail* and other interests, and principal shareholder and director of British Movietonews, joins the Gaumont-British directorate. The appointment does not betoken any dramatic bid by the newspaper baron for motion picture control, Rothermere having inherited from his father considerable interest in Twentieth Century-Fox. The present move is in line with arrangements under the Rank-Skouras agreement whereby 20th-Fox gets greater representation on the G-B board.

Defer Publication of Moley's 'Hays' Office'

Publication of Raymond Moley's book entitled "The Hays' Office," scheduled by Bobbs-Merrill for this Fall, has been 'indefinitely postponed', a representative of the publishers stated here yesterday. Moley, now en route to California and scheduled to return to New York in a month, still has a good deal to do on revisions of the script.

Moley's book, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Feb. 17 is

(*Continued on page 5*)

Vacation Price Cut Gross $10 Daily

A loss in grosses of about $10 per theatre per day is estimated by circuit spokesmen to have been the effect of the lowered teen-aged children's admission prices which began Aug. 25 in some 200 New York neighborhood houses and ended last week.

Requested by Mayor La Guardia as a means of keeping youngsters off the streets, the arrangement enabled those between 12 and 16 years of age to attend theatres at children's admission rates plus adult tax rates. No decision has yet been made about resuming the plan next summer.

Treaties on Films Fade

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Chances for successful enactment of any postwar international film agreement were reduced at the weekend when prominent representatives of the petroleum industry blasted the recently-signed Anglo-American oil agreement now pending before the Senate for ratification as a treaty. The arrangement was designed as the basic pattern for a number of other compacts, including one for films, which the government is anxious to make to provide for orderly international trade after the war. Leading oil lawyers charged that if it is translated into a treaty ratified by the Senate, Congress will have power never intended for it.

Gov't. Support Gives British Industry Advantage Abroad

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Failure of the Government to give assistance toward getting representatives of the film industry into European countries as they are liberated is being protested by distributors, who are seeking to secure for their men some sort of quasi-official standing which would insure the quick distribution of American motion pictures.

Reports from France indicate that British film men got into the country on the heels of Allied armies and quickly arranged with native exhibitors for the showing of English films, while American representatives were unable to make any moves to that end. Reports to Washington indicate that the British film men are attached to the Ministry of Information or some other governmental agency, giving them an official standing which our

(*Continued on page 5*)

Some Houses Still Out by Hurricane

Although summer resort theatres were the only ones in this area to suffer serious property damage from the hurricane that swept the Atlantic Coast Thursday night, the crippling of electric power systems, which forced many to shut down, left some still out of commission at the weekend.

Hardest hit was the Endicott Circuit, which suffered $5,000 flood dam-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Only Studio Not in Need of Postwar Changes

Hollywood, Sept. 17.—M-G-M's studio building program was completed before war needs clamped down on materials. Practically every other studio in Hollywood is awaiting release of materials for reconstruction. As a consequence, studio officials at sprawling Culver City studio declare they face no immediate problem. In a plant the size of Metro's—172 acres, 177 buildings on Lot No. 1, including 30 sound stages, and an average of 4,800 employes on regular payrolls—renovation and brushing up are a continuing process. But there's a difference between this and a program of replacement or expansion.

The studio completed six stages in the immediate pre-war period. It also completed its administration building and a new commissary. Property and wardrobe department additions similarly were made. Today, the feeling is, "We're complete."

However, in the event even more space is required, M-G-M can draw upon the block immediately East of the studio, on Washington Boulevard, which the studio owns.

State Control Of 4,500 Projectionists

Authorities Will Seek Complete Regulation

New York's upwards of 4,500 projectionists in the state's 1,500-odd theatres will be subject to state registration and regulation under a plan to be pushed at the next session of the legislature, convening in January, it was disclosed here Friday by Inspector Robert V. Anett of the New York State Troopers, who will sponsor the measure because they are charged with enforcing theatre safety measures under the state building code.

Reporting to an advisory committee meeting called by state industrial commissioner Edward Corsi to consider revision of the state building code for places of public assembly, Anett said New York is the only state in

(*Continued on page 5*)

N. Y. Labor Dept. to Ask Building Code

The New York State Department of Labor will press at the next session of the Legislature, convening Jan. 1, for a building code for theatres and other places of public assembly, applicable everywhere in the state, including the 16 cities which, having local codes, are now exempt from state regulation, Leonard Perrin, director of engineering for the department, on Friday told a committee of theatre circuit representatives and

(*Continued on page 5*)

Lawyers Ask Million, Knox Gives $62,000

Federal Judge John C. Knox on Friday awarded $62,000 to attorneys and others who had filed claims aggregating more than $1,000,000 for services in the litigation which recently resulted in the transfer of more than $2,500.000 in assets by Skouras Theatres Corp., to trustees of Fox Theatres Corp.

Robert Aronstein, attorney for the First National Bank, Atlanta, who asked for $605,000 for himself and as-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Personal Mention

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and SAM SHAIN, his assistant, were in Washington at the weekend.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, head of Paramount's Eastern production department, and RICHARD MEALAND, Eastern story editor, left for Hollywood at the weekend, to be gone 10 days.

•

DAVID and JAMES ARTHUR, former Fanchon and Marco executives in St. Louis, have both been promoted first lieutenants in the Marine Corps, and are now on leave in St. Louis.

•

MORRIS GOODMAN, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign sales, was scheduled to leave over the weekend on a three-months' tour of South America.

•

MISS CEIL SASOW, secretary to DAVID LEVY, Universal's New York branch manager, has resigned following her marriage to LEWIS ALFRED.

•

ROBERT S. WOLF, RKO's managing director for Great Britain, visiting this country, left Friday for RKO's studio in Hollywood.

•

KETTI FRINGS, RKO novelist-scenarist, has arrived in New York from Beverly Hills.

•

ROBERT BOEHNEL of the RKO Radio publicity department will return from vacation today.

•

ROBERT O. SCHOHAM, M-G-M representative in Puerto Rico, is here with MRS. SCHOHAM for four weeks.

•

HARRY ARTHUR, JR., head of Fanchon and Marco, has returned to St. Louis.

•

DON CARLE GILLETTE, Warner trade press publicity manager, will return from vacation today.

•

MARLENE DIETRICH arrived in Iceland at the weekend to entertain troops.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant general sales manager of Universal, left Sunday night for Detroit and Chicago.

•

LOUIS BRAGER of Warners' home office real estate department, is visiting in Pittsburgh.

•

LOUIS INGRAM, M-G-M Memphis exchange manager, has returned from a vacation.

•

EDWARD J. PESKAY left New York at the weekend for California.

Mrs. Al Santell Dies

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17.—Mrs. Jane Neave Santell, 36, wife of Al Santell, director, died late last week in Good Samaritan Hospital here after an illness of seven weeks. Besides her husband she is survived by four children: Barbara, Linda, Allan and Evan, and three brothers and a sister.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

RECENT reports out of Washington, many of them impressively well documented, suggest the problems which this industry may encounter sooner or later in its efforts to reestablish its world trade.

One report has it that influential officials in Washington, well intentioned men, all of them, are even now occupied with efforts to convince the Administration that all of America's postwar foreign trade should be ruled by a government agency. Their reasoning is that virtually all foreign governments will exercise close supervision of their own import and export trade after the war, and that many new as well as all of the known varieties of protective and promotional legislation will be invoked by the respective governments to insulate that trade. Accordingly, it is argued, American industry is destined in its pursuit of foreign trade to deal more and more with foreign governments and is likely, eventually, to find itself at a distinct disadvantage in world commerce unless it, too, has an official government agency or bureau to "front" for it wherever it may go.

•

Such an arrangement might be commendable if it was designed only to embrace a plan of improving upon the type of cooperation which the Washington government heretofore has afforded American industry abroad. If it contemplates the more aggressive and effective aid of the State and foreign commerce departments, where American industry requires such assistance abroad, then the proposal surely is all to the good. However, there are some indications that this may not be the case.

A former official of the U. S. Department of Commerce told a meeting of export managers in New York last week that the plan calls for complete supervision, if not administration of all of America's foreign trade by a government agency. Moreover, he charged that Washington is discussing and has approved certain phases of a plan for governmental control of international trade which would bar American industry from some markets and permit it to enter others only with the express permission of the government concerned. For example, it was charged, Britain would be recognized as being entitled to the exclusive foreign trade with India and certain other Far East countries. Everything that Britain is in a position to supply to such countries could come only from or through Britain. What Britain could not supply could enter such countries only under license from Britain or with Britain's other authorization. An American salesman, it was said, would not be permitted to enter such countries without Britain's permission.

If that is the sort of foreign trade representation which is to be supplied American industry by government bureaus or agencies in the postwar world, then American industry obviously may expect more and greater problems than it has contemplated heretofore. The first of them, perhaps, may have to be solved at home.

• •

Desirable as the proposals to perpetuate the industry War Activities Committee beyond V-Day may be, there is little in the industry's unity or cooperative records to date to indicate that the plan has any real chance of success.

Equally admirable plans to achieve unity in the industry, or cohesion or what have you, have been markedly short-lived and uniformly unsuccessful. Is there reason to believe that with the incentive of coordinated war effort by the industry removed that the components of the War Activities Committee can be held together for long? And under what banner?

The proposal, of course, is no less desirable for all of the obstacles which confront it and which make its chances of realization—for any length of time—so slim. It is merely to be remembered, realistically, that the several branches of the industry apparently prefer to go their respective ways alone, between wars. It is too soon to have forgotten one recent spectacle to which the industry was treated—the collapse of the effort to band together the component parts of the exhibition branch wherein unity was sought solely for the purpose of protecting exhibition from the consequences of discriminatory taxation.

Coming Events

Sept. 20—Meeting of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, Seattle.

Sept. 21—Screen Writers Guild membership meeting, Los Angeles.

Sept. 22-24—National Screen Service sales meeting, Los Angeles.

Sept. 24—M-G-M field exploiteers' meeting, Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 17—Society of M. P. Engineers' semi-annual banquet, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 17—West Virginia Theatre Owners' meeting, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Va.

Nov. 11-Dec. 7—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 11—Motion Picture Associates Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov. 14—"Night of Stars," sponsored by United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Dec. 11-12—Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

Final NSS Meeting On Coast This Week

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17.—The third and last regional sales meeting of National Screen Service will open here Friday at the Ambassador Hotel, and run through next Sunday. Staffs from Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle offices will be present.

The meeting will be headed by George F. Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales, who will discuss plans for the season, as well as post-war advertising in the theatrees; it is a highlight of the "George Dembow Tribute," National Screen's sales drive for 1944.

Henry Reeve to Run Loan Post in Texas

The Southwestern regional chairmanship of the Sixth War Loan committee will be retained by Henry Reeve, head of the Texas Theatre Owners, Inc., although he will not be able to make his headquarters in New York during the campaign, a War Activities Committee spokesman stated here at the weekend.

An alternate to act for Reeve in matters that must be handled in New York may possibly be appointed by Harry Brandt, national industry chairman.

Variety Meet Nov. 24-25

R. J. O'Donnell, national Chief Barker of the Variety Club of America, announced before leaving for Dallas over the weekend that Variety's annual meeting will be held in Washington on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 24-25, at the Statler Hotel.

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She's stepping
into the spotlight!
She's
VIVIAN
BLAINE
The New Cherry Blonde... in...

20TH CENTURY FOX'S STAR-GLITTERING SHOW

CARMEN  MIRANDA

DON  AMECHE

WILLIAM  BENDIX

GREENWICH VILLAGE

IN TECHNICOLOR

and introducing the Star Discovery of the Year....

VIVIAN  BLAINE

the New Cherry Blonde

FELIX BRESSART • TONY and SALLY DE MARCO • THE REVUERS

B. S. PULLY • FOUR STEP BROTHERS • EMIL RAMEAU

Directed by WALTER LANG Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON

Screen Play by Earl Baldwin and Walter Bullock • Adaptation by Michael Fessier and Ernest S. Pagano • Suggested by a Story by Frederick Hazlitt Brennan

Songs: "It Goes to Your Toes", "Give Me A Band And A Bandana", "It's All For Art's Sake" by Leo Robin and Nacio Herb Brown • Dances Staged by Seymour Felix

Seek State Control Of Projectionists

(Continued from page 1)

the Northeast that does not now require licensing of projectionists.

The proposed measure, an amendment to Section 18 of the "city law," would provide that no applicant under 21 years old could receive a license. Anett said. He declared that, in the course of his department's inspections, scores of youths had been found on duty in theatre booths and that, in the investigation of one typical theatre fire, the projectionist had been discovered to be 15 years old and his assistant, 14.

Full approval of the licensing plan was voiced by Martin J. Tracey of the Century Circuit and Henry Anderson of Paramount, who were present at the meeting. "The problem of employing young projectionists has increased in the war years," Tracey said.

Licensing of projectionists is required by local law in New York City, Buffalo and several other cities, where projectionists are compelled to pass rigid tests, which, presumably, would also be applied under the proposed state plan for projectionists licensing.

LeRoy Rejoins WB Producer Ranks

(Continued from page 1)

citing LeRoy's "Little Caesar," "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang," "Anthony Adverse," and "Oil for the Lamps of China."

In confirming the deal, announced by the Warner home office, LeRoy said he is "gratified that the Warner-Arrowhead deal gives me the opportunity to rejoin old friends and coworkers at the Warner studio." His first will be announced soon.

Defer Publication of Moley's 'Hays' Office'

(Continued from page 1)

to be a 100,000-word story of how the film industry, through the MPPDA, has set an example to other industries on practical self-government. The author, who once headed the National Recovery Administration, is now on the editorial staff of *Newsweek*.

Lefton to Talk to Fromkess on Product

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—Nat L. Lefton of Cleveland, chairman of the PRC franchise owners' committee, held a committee meeting here Saturday and today to discuss their future product requirements. Following the meeting, Lefton will go to Hollywood to confer with PRC president Leon Fromkess and vice-president and general sales manager Leo J. McCarthy. Attending the meeting here are, in addition to Lefton: Ike Katz, Atlanta; George Gill, Washington; Henry Elman, Chicago, and William Flemion, Detroit. Gill and Flemion will accompany Lefton to California.

Theatres to Aid Wacs

One hundred neighborhood theatres in Greater New York will cooperate with the Army's Women's Army Corps recruiting drive by running a two-minute trailer to spur enlistments. The trailer will be shown Oct. 1.

New York State Labor Board To Demand Building Code

(Continued from page 1)

others appointed as an advisory group to help draw up a new code.

J. Henry Walters, RKO attorney, has pointed out that such a move might be expected at any time and that it would have far-reaching effect upon theatres because numerous local codes are less drastic than the statewide regulations proposed.

Perrin, reporting at Friday's meeting on behalf of state industrial commissioner Edward Corsi, said his department seeks code enforcement authority throughout the state, except possibly in cities of more than 250,000 population: New York, Buffalo and Rochester. The present state code, passed in 1925, is now enforced locally by 35 cities and 215 towns and villages, and New York State troopers are charged with administering it elsewhere.

That film theatres stand to receive excessive regulation under the proposed new code was pointed out at the meeting by Henry Anderson, representing Paramount, who pointed out, "I believe we do a better job through our trained personnel and our accident prevention measures than is done by many other places of public assembly. Consideration should be given to those types of industry that carry insurance and administer their properties well."

The new code proposals fail to distinguish between film theatres and those with stage shows, and a fire-curtain of steel frame with automatic lowering devices is one of the new requirements proposed.

Other industry representatives present at the meeting were: Martin J. Tracey of Century Circuit, Theo Jung representing Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and Richard S. Hayes of the IATSE. Louis Lazar of the Schine circuit was unable to attend because of damage done in his territory by the heavy storm the night before.

Austrian, Raibourn Planning TBA Meet

Committee chairmen for the first annual conference of the Television Broadcasters Association, to be held here Dec. 11-12 at the Hotel Commodore, were designated at the weekend at a TBA luncheon at the Commodore. O. B. Hanson of NBC had already been designated as chairman of the conference and J. R. Poppele as vice-chairman and coordinator.

The conference will be open to nonmembers of TBA as well as members and several film company representatives are expected to attend.

Chairmen chosen include: Ralph B. Austrian, RKO Television Corp., William Morris, and Worthington Minor, CBS, co-chairman of the program committee; Paul Raibourn, Paramount, chairman of awards committee; Allen B. DuMont, speakers; James McLean, General Electric; T. J. Bernard, RCA-Victor; James Shouse, Crosley; Leonard Cramer, DuMont, and James Carmine, Philco, displays; Douglas Day, Buchanan and Co., budget; Robert L. Gibson, reception; Will Baltin, publicity, and Dorman D. Israel, panels.

In Jennifer's Domain

JONESBORO, Me., Sept. 17.—The Joneses of Jonesport, in a petition signed by Mrs. C. A. Jones, have appealed to "the Joneses of America to rise in wrath against Virginia Mayo for forsaking her alleged rightful name of Jones to appear in 'The Princess and the Pirate,'" RKO-Goldwyn. Suggesting that all Joneses "desist from attending" the film, Mrs. Jones points out that the family everybody tries to keep up with has given its names to the leading characters of 1,976 films.

S. Barret McCormick's RKO promotional department here, had no comment.

Seeks Revision of Talent-Loan System

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 17.—The attack upon the conditions of employment long considered by actors unfair and inequitable will be made by the Screen Actors Guild in negotiating a contract to supersede the present pact with the producers, which runs until 1947, incoming President George Murphy told the Class A membership meeting here at the Beverly Wilshire hotel tonight.

Murphy said the SAG will demand revision of term contracts so that the actor who signs to make pictures exclusively for one studio does not necessarily grant blanket rights to his services in radio, television and other fields of entertainment.

Striking at the prevailing talent-loan system, the SAG will demand "clarification" of the condition under which the producer can hire an actor for a nominal sum and rent him to other studios at a profit to the employing producer but without increased compensation for the actor.

The report to the membership on war activities showed 3,371 performers have made 32,499 appearances for the Armed forces, charity and relief since November, 1941. Edward Arnold, making the report, said similar entertainment programs would be undertaken on a permanent basis if the U. S. adopts compulsory military training. Closer affiliation of the SAG with other actor groups, cooperation with the Central Labor Council and the Hollywood Council of Guilds and Unions, and Unions for Veterans' Rehabilitation and salary stabilization were other subjects dealt with.

'Marriage' Premiere

M-G-M's "Marriage is a Private Affair" will have its world premiere in simultaneous showings on all fighting fronts, according to the home office. The date has been set for Sept. 23; 98 16mm. prints have already been shipped overseas. The film will not open in this country until after the overseas premiere.

Gov't. Support Gives British Industry Advantage Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

representatives lack, because the Office of War Information so far has refused to extend similar assistance.

While the distributors are complaining of the lack of official assistance in expanding the showing of American films, in which the State Department is supposed to be highly interested because of their democratic "education" possibilities, it is admitted that once it gets into a country the United States industry is able quickly to build up a market on the basis of quality, variety and volume.

The situation in France, which is more or less a repetition of what happened in North Africa, is only one evidence of the lack of a close tie-in between the government and industry. Washington officials have been advised that representatives of British industrial concerns, with the assistance of their government, even now are traveling through Latin America taking orders for merchandise to be delivered after the war and, to quote reports, are "cleaning up."

Some Houses Still Out by Hurricane

(Continued from page 1)

age to two Long Island open-air theatres, the Boardwalk at Arverne and the Edgemere at Edgemere. The Strand at Ocean Grove, N. J., a Brandt house scheduled to keep open until the end of the month, was closed when high waters ruined equipment.

Damage to power lines caused the closing of the Mayfair, Hillside, N. J., an Associated Theatres house; Brandt's Central, Kent and Terrace in Yonkers, Loew's Warwick and 46th Street in Jersey City, Randforce's Biltmore, Kinema and Embassy in Brooklyn, the Utopia at Flushing, run by the Island Theatre Circuit, and a number of others. Difficulties of repair left openings uncertain in some parts of Jersey City, Brooklyn and Long Island.

Lawyers Ask Million, Knox Gives $62,000

(Continued from page 1)

sociates, was awarded $45,000, Judge Knox crediting his efforts with having brought about the offer of Skouras interests to return the theatre property. Irving L. Levey, general counsel for the trustees, who asked for $536,280, was awarded $15,000. Garey, Desvernine and Garey, attorneys, and Marks and Marks, accountants, who had petitioned for $2,500 and $3,500, respectively, were awarded $1,000 each.

Under the settlement, creditors and stockholders over a period of years will benefit by more than $2,500,000 in gross rentals of the theatre, Skouras paying $175,000 annually for 12 years under a lease.

Colligan Todd Manager

James Colligan, comptroller for the Michael Todd organization, has been named general manager. William F. Laffan succeeds Colligan.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Sept. 17

PRODUCTION is being stepped up at Republic, where 12 features are preparing. On producer Albert Cohen's schedule are "Earl Carroll's Vanities," "The Iron Master," which will star Michael O'Shea, and "The Fabulous Texan," an adventure story based on the life of Sam Bass, outlaw of the early West. "Gold Country," a tale of the California gold rush, is being readied for producer Joseph Kane. "Queen of Avenue A," musical of old New York, is being developed from an original by Joseph Santley, who will also produce and direct. Producer Herman Millakowsky has two in preparation: "Girls in the Big House" and a comedy called "The Ghost Comes Home." Others which will start shooting shortly include: "Queen of the Jungle," South Sea musical which Walter Goetz will produce, "A Daring Holiday," "Murder Stole My Missing Hours" and "That's What You Think."

•

Walter Lantz will marshal his several "Cartune" characters to assemble an all-star cast for "Poet and Peasant," a treatment of the overture of that title, which is an addition to the Lantz schedule of shorts for Universal. . . . William Wilder, brother of Billy Wilder, has engaged Anthony Mann to direct "The Great Flamarion," which will co-star Erich von Stroheim and Mary Beth Hughes. The film will be released through Republic. . . . Gloria Hope, who has been a featured singer at New York's Stork Club, has been signed by M-G-M.

•

Hal B. Wallis' purchase of screen rights to Lillian Hellman's "The Searching Wind" is the fifth property to be acquired by Wallis since his affiliation with Paramount. The others are: "Love Letters," "The Affairs of Susan," which will star Joan Fontaine; "Whenever I Remember," and "Don't Ever Grieve Me."

•

PRC has purchased "Phantom of 42nd Street," a novel by Milton Raison and Jack Harvey. It will be Al Herman's first production for the studio. . . . Evelyn Keyes has been assigned one of the principal roles in Columbia's "A Thousand and One Nights." Alfred E. Green will direct the feature, which is a fantasy of old Baghdad. . . . Andy Clyde will have a comedy role in Warners' "Roughly Speaking." . . . Richard Aldington, British author, will write the screenplay for "Diamond Rock," which Edwin Knopf will produce at M-G-M. . . . Addison Richards has been cast for an important role in "Spellbound," which is the new title for David O. Selznick's "The House of Dr. Edwardes."

•

Amelita Ward will have the romantic feminine lead in Universal's "Jungle Captive," replacing Betty Bryant, who is unable to take the part because of illness. . . . Lane Watson, recently signed by International Pictures, has been cast as a newspaper photographer in the Sonja Henie starrer, "It's a Pleasure." . . . Walter Brennan has been assigned an important role in "Nobody Lives Forever," which Robert Buckner is producing for Warners.

Reviews

"Dead Man's Eyes"

(Universal)

ALTHOUGH it treats of the unusual theme of transplanting a dead man's cornea to a blind man to restore his sight, "Dead Man's Eyes" rarely achieves that air of suspense and excitement that are requisites of the mystery film, being hobbled by inept dialogue that makes the film drag interminably. An earnest troupe of players, including Lon Chaney, Jean Parker, Paul Kelly, George Meeker, Edward Fielding, Asquanetta and George Meeker, strains unsuccessfully to overcome the stretches of hackneyed dialogue. The bizarre theme, however, in addition to the name players, may afford an opportunity for strong exploitation that may aid the box office.

The nub of the mystery fastens around a trio of suspects of Fielding's murder whose demise comes shortly after he has willed his cornea to Chaney, an artist, who has become blind. Suspicion fastens upon Chaney, Acquanetta and Meeker, a jealous suitor of Miss Parker. Gomez eventually breaks the case, with Chaney's aid, and reveals that Kelly committed the murder in order that Fielding's corneas be switched to Chaney's eyes so as to facilitate his suit of Acquanetta, who is devoted to Chaney in his blind condition. Chaney regains his sight when the operation is successful and is free to marry Miss Parker. Reginald LeBorg directed from Dwight V. Babcock's screenplay. Will Cowan was associate producer of this Inner Sanctum Mystery.

Running time, 64 minutes. "G."* Release date, Nov. 10.

CHARLES RYWECK.

**"G" denotes general classification.*

"Thunder Rock"

(Charter Pictures—English Films)

SELDOM does a picture approach more nearly the peak of perfect production. The story is dramatic, gripping and real, it is acted superbly, Roy Boulton directed with care and apparent inspiration, and every phase of production, with special plaudits for the camera work, is handled with finesse and blended skilfully.

"Thunder Rock," made in England, is an indictment of those who refused to see the inevitability of World War II. Michael Redgrave is a newspaper correspondent whose warnings of the impending tragedy which befell the world in 1939 were scorned. In disgust, he exiles himself to a lighthouse island in Lake Michigan, USA, where he lives with people of his imagination—the passengers of a ship which sank nearby in 1849. Each was a refugee who had fled Europe when pleas for progress had been ignored. Each fled the world he felt was headed for destruction. Redgrave, hearing the creatures of his own mind speaking to him, realizes that he ran away too soon, and resolves to return to his homeland to carry on his crusade against Fascism, inspired anew with a faith in humanity and the inevitability of progress.

As a psychological study and a politically significant story of one man's fight against Fascism, "Thunder Rock" is in a class by itself. John Boulton produced for Charter. Mutz Greenbaum photographed, the screenplay was adapted, from Robert Ardrey's play, by Jeffrey Dell and Bernard Miles. Barbara Mullen plays the role of a woman who fought for the vindication of womanhood, while others in the cast include James Mason, Lilli Palmer, Finlay Currie, Frederick Valk, Sybilla Binder and Frederick Cooper.

Running time, 90 mins. "A."* Release date, Sept. 14.

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"A" denotes adult classification.*

Plays Compete With Films in Boston

BOSTON, Sept. 17.—Considerable additional competition for film theatres is ahead here with the opening of three new plays. "Down to Miami" has begun a trial run at the Shubert here. "Sadie Thompson," version of "Rain," will open Sept. 25, starring Ethel Merman.

The premiere of "Look Back on Today" will be held Sept. 28 at the Agassiz Theatre in Cambridge.

Polio Not Affecting Penna. Theatres Yet

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 17.—Although more than 300 cases of infantile paralysis have been reported in this state in the current epidemic, the Pennsylvania Department of State, through Dr. A. H. Stewart, secretary, reports that it does not contemplate ordering theatres or other public places to close at present.

Local health authorities have also indicated they will not close theatres here.

FP-C's Jules Wolfe Cites Improved Postwar Equipment

TORONTO, Sept. 17.—An appraisal of postwar developments in theatre equipment and construction has been made by Jules Wolfe, purchasing agent in charge of maintenance, engineering and construction for Famous Players-Canadian Corp.

Wolfe stresses the evolutionary potentialities in heating, predicting that present visible radiators will be replaced by panel heating which will use concealed piping embedded in the walls, floors or ceilings; or by electrical plates or panels placed in insulated recesses of walls and ceilings. Still another variation may resut from electrically heated tapestries mounted on wall screens. Yet another variation, he also avers, may be the utilization of solar heat extracted from the sun's rays and stored to heat water used in coils for radiant or panel heating.

Wolfe says that while experts claim theatre television is coming in some form or other, they are not prepared to release details. They do state, however, it will come in compact, packaged units, readily adaptable to almost any condition of structural layout. New products will be available for theatre construction, Wolfe prophesies, particularly those containing a large percentage of aluminum and magnesium.

In the realm of air conditioning, great improvements can be expected, says Wolfe, in proper distribution, diffuser construction and re-circulating systems to insure uniform and properly tempered air comfort. Ornamental auditorium lighting fixtures may then be eliminated, he said.

The part plastics and glass will have in postwar development, the FP-C official declares, is also highly potential. Plastic wall coverings in design will likely be used extensively, he said. Theatre murals will be protected with a film of transparent plastic, thus preserving decorations indefinitely. Entrance doors may be constructed entirely of plate glass, tempered and unbreakable, with plastic ornamental hardware. Stage drapes and curtains will be made of spun glass and fireproof fabrics, Wolfe predicts.

It will be possible to change decorative scenes in auditoriums, Wolfe concludes, to create atmosphere in keeping with the theme of the feature program by use of stereopticon projection.

Pathe Declares Dividend

The board of directors of Pathe Industries, Inc., has declared an initial quarterly dividend of one dollar per share on the four per cent cumulative preferred stock, payable Oct. 1 to stockholders of record Sept. 20. The new preferred stock was issued following the merger of Pathe Laboratories of New Jersey and Pathe Laboratories, Inc., into Pathe Industries, Inc.

Goldsmith Here

Keith Goldsmith, Universal manager in Trinidid for the past four years, has arrived in New York for conferences with J. H. Seidelman, president of Universal International Films. Goldsmith will receive a new assignment shortly.

Thank
YOU

Paramount takes this opportunity
to express its sincere gratitude to each of the
thousands of exhibitors who cooperated
so splendidly to make Paramount Week,
September 3rd to 9th, the greatest week
in all the great history of

Paramount

Chas. M. Reagan
Vice-President in Charge of Distribution

'Wilson' is Doubling Cincinnati Average

CINCINNATI, Sept. 17.—"Wilson," playing the RKO Capitol at advanced prices, is moving to an estimated $20,000, while "Casanova Brown" will do approximately $10,000 on a moveover week at the RKO Grand, up $3,500 on the average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 13-16:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE — (2,000) (40c-55c-76c-$1.10) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $20,000. (Average, at 44c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000).
"Delinquent Daughters" (PRC)
"Call of the South Seas" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,400).
"Twilight on the Prairie" (Univ.)
"Fuzzy Settles Down" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(4,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,500).
"In Society" (Univ.)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, following one week at the Albee and moveover week at Keith's. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"The Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Janie" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $5,000).

Indianapolis Pays $21,000 for 'Secret'

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 17.—"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" and a stage show at the Circle top the box office receipts this week, grossing $21,000. The Indiana expects $13,500 with "Christmas Holiday" and "She's a Soldier, Too."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 12-14:

"Henry Aldrich's Little Secret" (Para.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (55c-70c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $11,800).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"She's a Soldier, Too" (Col.)
INDIANA — (3,200) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,600).
"Racket Man" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $5,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)
"Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,900).

Omaha Pays $11,800 For 'Bathing Beauty'

OMAHA, Sept. 17.—"Bathing Beauty's" $11,800 set the box office pace at the Paramount Theatre here. "Casonova Brown" had a good second week at the Brandeis. Weather was ideal.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 13-14:

"Casanova Brown" (WB)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $6,500).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
"The Scarlet Claw" (Univ.)
OMAHA — (2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount for "I Love a Soldier." Gross: $9,100. (Average: $8,400).
"The Great Moment" (Para.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $9,800).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT — (2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $11,700).

Theatres May Get Relief on Carpets

Washington, Sept. 17.—Alleviation of the tight carpet situation for theatres and other public places is seen possible in the War Production Board disclosure here that consideration is being given to making available for export to the U. S., Canada and England a quantity of jute carpet-yarn now held in storage in India.

In order to expedite fabrication, the WPB advises carpet mills interested to make immediate application for authorization to import, pending a decision on release of the material.

Big $24,000 for 'Ghost' in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Sept. 17.—"The Canterville Ghost" and "Tars and Spars," U. S. Coast Guard recruiting revue, on the stage, led here at the Buffalo with an expected $24,000. "The Seventh Cross" dropped off slightly in the first part of a second week at the Great Lakes and will be below average. Weather is cooler. The infantile paralysis epidemic is subsiding. Schools open on the 26th, three weeks late.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 16:

"The Canterville Ghost" (M-G-M)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (55c-76c) 7 days. "Tars and Spars" on stage, U. S. Coast Guard musical revue. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $17,400).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $16,200).
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Falcon Out West" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $12,200).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"The Black Parachute" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,400).

The report for the week ending Sept. 9th listed $24,300 as the estimated gross for "Three Men in White" and Horace Heidt's orchestra on the stage at Shea's Buffalo. Final compilation showed the gross was $38,300, a new house record.

MGM Field Men Meet

M-G-M field exploiteers who will attend a two-day district meeting Sept. 24-25 at the Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City, include: E. B. Coleman, Dallas; Irving Waterstreet, St. Louis; Bernie Evens, Kansas City; Ed Gardner, Oklahoma City, and William Prass, Denver, all in the district supervised by Burtus Bishop, Jr. The meeting is the second of a series called by William R. Ferguson, exploitation director.

Five More 'Wilson' Dates

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—Fred Joyce special representative for 20th-Fox handling "Wilson" exploitation work, will spend this month in Indiana and Kentucky promoting five openings, at the Indiana Theater, Indianapolis, Sept. 20; Palace, Fort Wayne, 21; Rialto, Louisville, 28; Grand, Terra Haute, 30, and Lafayette, Oct. 1.

'Frisco's Warfield Grosses $19,000 Over Par on 'Wilson'

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 17.—"Wilson" is again far out in front with a smashing $44,000 in its second week at the Warfield, following an opening week's gross of $52,000. "Since You Went Away" is another top hit and is still playing to turn-away crowds in its third week at the United Artists where it grossed $24,100.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 12-14:

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,100. (Average: $11,000).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $27,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD — (2,680) (76c-85c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $44,000. (Average: $25,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (MGM)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $28,000).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
STATE — (2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, moveover from the Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS — (1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 5th week, moveover after four weeks at the Fox. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000).

'Janie,' 'Angels' Take Providence Spotlight

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 17.—"Janie" and "And the Angels Sing" grossed $15,000 each in their opening weeks at the Majestic and Strand, respectively, while "Casanova Brown" reaped $13,500 in its second week at the RKO-Albee and will be held a third week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14:

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,800).
"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,500).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $17,700).
"Janie" (WB)
"Boogie-Woogie Dream" (Hollywood Prod.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,100).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"Crime by Night" (WB)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. (Moved over after two weeks at Majestic). Gross: $4,100. (Average: $4,000).
"Dixie Jamboree" (PRC)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Gay '90s Revue. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (44c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Harry Howard's "Hooray for the Girls." Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,900).

Arrange Dewey Program

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17.—David O. Selznick and Cecil B. De Mille will handle the "Hollywood" end of New York's Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's appearance here Sept. 21. Clark Gable and Jeannette MacDonald will be among the stars who will appear. Gov. Dewey will deliver a campaign speech at the Memorial Coliseum.

Horne Lifts 'Pearl' To Cleveland Lead

CLEVELAND, Sept. 17.—Lena Horne packed them in at the RKO Palace here, for an estimated $44,000 for the week, with "Pearl of Death" on the screen. "Dragon Seed" opened very big at Loew's State; although the show is long, the take looks like $22,500. "Double Indemnity" is holding strong at Loew's Ohio and will show better than $7,200 in its fourth week.

Estimated receipts for week ended Sept. 13:

"Marine Raiders" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) 45c-55c-65c, 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Step Lively "(RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $22,100).
"Janie" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,200).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $5,000).
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (50c-60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Lena Horne and Cootie Williams' Band. Gross: $44,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $19,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c), 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).

'My Way' Cornering Montreal Market

MONTREAL, Sept. 17.—"Going My Way" has practically cornered the local theatre market. Playing at Loew's, the film is expected to set a record, with an estimated $18,000 for the first week. Other pictures are about average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14:

"Going My Way" (Para.)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).
"This Is the Life" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-45c-63c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000).
"Seven Days Ashore" (RKO)
"Yellow Canary" (RKO)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (27c-34c-47c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500).
"Lady in the Death House" (PRC)
"Machine Gun Mama" (PRC)
STRAND—(715) (35c-45c) 7 days. Gross: $2,750. (Average: $2,700).

Preparing Papers for Prefect Case Appeal

Film attorney Saul Rogers, having recovered from a long illness and returned to his office here, is preparing papers to be filed, possibly this week, with the U. S. District Court of Appeals in the Prefect Theatres' $5,452,575 anti-trust suit against most of the distributing companies. Deadline for appealing is Sept. 28, three months after Judge Carroll Hincks denied the plaintiffs' motion for a new trial in Federal District Court at New Haven.

Judge Hincks, following 20 days of plaintiffs' testimony, took the case away from a jury in New Haven on April 14 and handed down a verdict in favor of the defense. The suit charges conspiracy to keep product from the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, Conn. The judge stated later that he found evidence of conspiracy but no evidence of damage.

Betty Hutton And 'The Mask' Raise $65,000

CHICAGO, Sept. 17.—Personal appearances of Betty Hutton, plus "The Mask of Dimitrios," attracted enough interest in the Loop to give the Chicago a lead-off gross of $65,000, against the house par of $51,500. The Woods finally closed "Up in Arms" after a record run of 20 weeks and a total estimated gross of $350,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 14:

"Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble" (M-G-M)
"Three Men in White" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,400).
"The Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Betty Hutton and revue. Gross: $65,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Leave It to the Irish" (Mono.)
DOWNTOWN—(1,600) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c). Stage: Johnny (Scat) Davis and orchestra. Gross: $12,500.
"The Hitler Gang" (Para.)
"Crime by Night" (WB) 5 days, 4th week
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox) 2 days
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).
"In Society" (Univ.) 4th Loop week
"Block Busters" (Univ.)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c). "Block Busters" replaced "Seven Doors to Death" (PRC) Saturday. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,100).
"Song of the Open Road" (UA)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-60c-85c-95c). Stage: Boyd Raeburn and orchestra, and Mills Brothers. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Bride by Mistake" (RKO)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Mr. Skeffington" (WB)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Up in Arms" (RKO) 5 days, 20th week
"Man from Frisco" (Rep.) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000).

Withdraw Complaint In New Orleans

Two arbitration complaints filed in the New Orleans tribunal in Feb., 1942, against the five consenting distributors have been withdrawn, the American Arbitration Association has reported here.

The complaints were originally filed in behalf of the Don Theatre, Alexandria, La., operated by Don George, who sought a reduction in clearance; and the Glenwood Theatre, Shreveport, La., operated by the Glenwood Theatre Corp., Don George, secretary-treasurer, who sought relief under Section 10 of the decree, which pertains to designated run.

To Produce 30 Shorts

Filmcraft Studios will begin production of 30 musical shorts this week. Featured will be Jeri Sullivan, CBS star; Ida James, nightclub vocalist; Lani McIntire and his orchestra and others. William Forest Crouch will produce and direct.

Order Cuts in 18 Films

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 17.—Eliminations were ordered in 18 out of 109 films reviewed by the Ohio censor board in August.

Short Subject Reviews

"Junior Jive Bombers"
(Warners)

A wealth of youthful talent appears in this entertaining subject. Colleen Townsend, featured in Warners' "Janie," is starred and backed up by a group of young musicians who will probably make names for themselves in the not too distant future. Drilled in the classics, both individually and as a high school orchestra, the youngsters revolt. Their version of the "Hungarian Rhapsody, No. 2" is "solid." Other numbers include "Blues in the Night," "We're Working Our Way Through College," "Drum Boogie" and "Mutiny in the Nursery." The subject looks like a winner anywhere. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Musical Movieland"
(Warners)

Warners' latest offering in the current series of musicals done in big time fashion is very impressive, in lush color, with production numbers aplenty. The background is a guided tour of a Hollywood studio, taking in various sets, each providing a separate show of song and dance numbers. All are impressive. Cleverly executed dance routines were devised and guided by Bobby Connolly and Mattie King. LeRoy Prinz directed. Words and music were written by M. K. Jerome and Jack Scholl. "Musical Movieland" should prove an excellent showbuilder. Running time, 20 mins.

"Bluenose Schooner"
(Warners)

Filmed in color, this release will delight all devotees of the outdoors. It has excitement in the roping of a giant shark, drama in the shots of Nova Scotians fishing the Canadian banks, even during the dangerous periods when enemy submarines lurked off the coast, and several other elements that go to make an interesting and entertaining subject. The Bluenose Schooner is a type of fishing vessel, once manned by sails, now operated by diesel engines and sails for balance. Produced for the "Sports Parade" by Douglas Sinclair and Edward Buckman. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Harness Racers"
(RKO-Pathe)

"Harness Racers" is a real treat for lovers of pacers and trotters, some of which grace the starting racks of the Hambletonian classic annually. The spirit of the sulky race is brought to the screen with vivid reality in Jay Bonafield's production.

The training and grooming procedure of the prospective champions is pictured in detail and the climax comes with the thrill of the race and ultimate victory. Joseph Walsh directed. Running time, 8½ minutes.

"From Hand to Mouse"
(Warners)

This distorted version of the Lion-and-the-Mouse fable does not work out too well. It is stock stuff and only mildly funny. The mouse plagues the uncommonly dumb lion, who has allowed him to live on the theory that the mouse may help him out some day. But the mouse has other plans. Part of the Looney Tunes series. Produced by Leon Schlesinger. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Their Dizzy Day"
(Warners)

The amazing and amusing adventures of four lion cubs make a really amusing subject. The little lions have a run-in with a monkey, raid a Summer cottage, push a canoe off shore and go for a ride—and get an unexpected ducking. Here is a short with universal appeal; it is clever. Mervyn Freeman directed and photographed. George O'Hanlon narrated. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Birdy and the Beast"
(Warners)

The animated story of Tweety, the bird, and his encounter with a hungry cat. Tweety escapes the cat and, aided by an English bulldog, plants a bomb in the cat's neighborhood, blowing up the cat. It is entertaining; youngsters especially will love it. Leon Schlesinger produced for the "Merrie Melodies" series. Running time, 7 minutes.

Para. News Supplies Shots of Soldiers

TORONTO, Sept. 17.—Paramount will distribute newsreel clips among next-of-kin, anywhere in Canada, of scenes showing relatives among Canadian troops overseas. Theatre patrons who spot such pictures in Paramount News are to notify the nearest Paramount exchange and the clips will be forwarded after the reel has completed scheduled runs.

Two More in Canada

TORONTO, Sept. 17.—Twentieth Century Theatres, Ltd., affiliated with Famous Players Canadian Corp., will construct postwar theatres in Toronto and Ottawa. The circuit, of which N. A. Taylor is general manager, has purchased a downtown site on Queen St., Ottawa, for $38,000 on which to erect the Cinema Theatre, to cost $200,000.

In Toronto, the circuit has invaded the East End with the purchase of the Regal Theatre which is to be replaced with a 1,000-seat house to be known as the Vanguard.

British Are Stymied In Television Survey

LONDON, Sept. 17. — Although the common feeling in all branches of the British film industry is that definite information on the possible 'perils' of television should be obtained before taking any far-reaching steps in that field, little or no progress has been made so far in efforts to get help on the subject.

A report of Sam Eckman, Jr., M-G-M British managing director, disclosed at a meeting of the Kinematograph Renters Society, made clear to a joint committee of producers, distributors and exhibitors that there is a lack of agreement on television within the American industry. Moreover, Major Reginald Baker, KRS president, reported that he and other delegates representative of the entire British industry had interviewed the Hankey Committee, British government inquiry group on post-war television potentialities, but that nothing tangible had emerged.

Countersuit Delays Finkel Case Trial

The distributors' rental-percentage withholding suit against William Finkel and his Carson Amusement Co., filed March 15 in Federal District Court at Pittsburgh and scheduled to come to trial in September, has now been delayed pending the outcome of a subsequent monopoly suit brought in the same court against the distributors by Morris Roth and 23 other Allegheny County independent exhibitors, including Finkel.

In their March complaints, Loew's, Paramount, Warners, 20th Century-Fox, RKO, Columbia and Universal charged that percentage box office reports for Finkel's Arcade and Colonial Theatres in Pittsburgh contained "intentionally false and incorrect statements of gross receipts." Each distributor asked damages of many thousands.

The exhibitors' countersuit, filed June 15 against the same distributors, plus United Artists, claimed the defendants had increased their control over theatres in the territory by increasing the number of percentage pictures the independents were required to play, thus increasing the fees, and then, when exhibitors failed to comply, withdrawing first-run privileges. The plaintiffs also demand voiding of all license agreements whereby the distributors could control length of runs.

Neal Named Republic Puerto Rico Manager

Prior to his departure Saturday for Hollywood and studio conferences on Republic's production set-up in Mexico with Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board, Morris Goodman, vice-president in charge of foreign sales, announced the appointment of Jack R. Neal as manager of the company's branch in Puerto Rico.

Neal left for his new post Saturday. He succeeds Carl Ponedel, whose transfer to Republic's office in Mexico City was recently announced.

Goodman will stay in Hollywood for a week, and will then leave for a three months' trip during which he will survey Latin-American conditions. His first stop will be Mexico, his itinerary including Panama, Venezuela, Trinidad, Brazil, Argentine, Chile, Peru, and Cuba.

NTS Names Baldwin Export Manager

Arthur F. Baldwin has been named manager of the National-Simplex-Bludwort export division of National Theatre Supply, it has been reported by W. E. Green, NTS president. The appointment of M. V. Higgins as assistant export manager was also reported.

The appointment is in line with the company's recent announcement that a complete line of theatre equipment will be made available to foreign exhibitors. Baldwin has been with the sales department for 11 years.

WB Buys Time on WABC

Warners will promote new product by spot announcements on the Phil Cook "Cook 'n' Corn" program on station WABC, New York outlet at CBS, on Wednesdays and Fridays, starting Oct. 4.

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WB Post-War Studio Needs Are Technical

Columbia, on Other Hand, Will Build New Stages

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S continuing survey of the property and technological needs of Hollywood's studios, now and for the post-war, finds that the principal, and immediate post-war observation at Warner Brothers' Burbank plant will be toward technological improvements. Mainly, this translates into terms of sound and cameras.

At Columbia's studio, however, there is readily acknowledged the need for additional sound stages and film vaults.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY has been

(*Continued on page 8*)

Variety Clubs Will Plan Postwar Role

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Plans for the Variety Clubs of America in postwar activities of the industry and the country will keynote the organization's national meeting at the Statler Hotel here Nov. 24-25.

With all "hi-jinks" and entertaining ruled out because of the war and with attendance limited to about 100, including the chief barker and two national canvassmen of each of the 25 tents, the gathering will stress, along with postwar projects, further War

(*Continued on page 8*)

Golden to Film the Story of the FBI

Edward A. Golden has acquired screen rights to the Frederick L. Collins book, "The FBI in Peace and War," the story of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with a foreword by J. Edgar Hoover, it was announced yesterday. Robert Golden will produce from a screenplay now being prepared by Collins. It was stated that the production will precede that of Paul De Kruif's "Kaiser Wakes the Doctors," which Golden also owns.

Robert Golden is scheduled to arrive in New York from Hollywood on Friday for conferences on the new production and will go to Texas from here for the world premiere of "The Mas-

(*Continued on page 9*)

Broadway Grosses Regain Most of Hurricane Losses

Although the hurricane dented Broadway's current week's grosses up to 60 per cent, business rebounded quickly over the weekend, and on Monday most houses seemed headed for a profitable week.

"Casanova Brown," opening at the Music Hall, was running ahead of any previous RKO premiere there when the "big blow" struck last Thursday, according to Robert Mochrie, RKO's general sales manager. And, while a possible opening-day record was washed out, the film had taken a handsome $73,500 by Sunday night and now heads for a $120,000 week. It will run indefinitely, with "Mrs. Parkington" scheduled to follow.

"Wilson," at the Roxy, where no

(*Continued on page 9*)

Ginsberg Completes Para. Studio Setup

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—Paramount will produce 16 features during the coming year, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 21, exclusive of an unspecified number of pictures

(*Continued on page 8*)

V-E Day Will Free Building Materials

Washington, Sept. 18.—The U. S. Chamber of Commerce reported today that lumber, steel and copper may be available in sufficient quantities following the defeat of Germany to permit a volume of civilian construction in the succeeding year about double the present rate.

"Under these circumstances," the Chamber said, "there is a growing belief that it would be feasible after the German collapse to remove many, if not all, of the present controls on construction."

Blumenfeld, Wobber Head Coast Group

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18.—Joseph Blumenfeld, president of Blumenfeld Theatres, Inc., has been elected president of the California Theatres Association, Inc. At a meeting held here, other officers elected were: Herman Wobber, 20th Century-Fox, first vice-president; George Nasser, Nasser

(*Continued on page 8*)

Companies Retain Title to Gift Films; Can Curb Them

Freon Fails to Flow—Again

Washington, Sept. 18.—A new critical shortage of freon refrigerant will occur next month as a result of a lack of hydrofluoric acid, an important component of freon, War Production Board officials disclosed today, but it is hoped still to be able to meet needs of exhibitors before Summer, 1945.

The new failure is described as being due to over-optimism on the capacity of existing hydrofluoric acid plants and the failure of two new ones to come into operation as scheduled. The production of the acid in October will fall short of programmed volume by nearly 35 per cent, necessitating a corresponding reduction in freon output, it was said.

Assurances that motion pictures and equipment now being used by the Government in the war effort shall not later fall into the hands of "non-theatrical competitors" are being sought by Allied's special committee under Col. H. A. Cole, who has returned to his Dallas headquarters following several days of conferences on the problem with film company executives in New York.

The committee was appointed, along with several others on immediate and postwar exhibitor problems, at national Allied's recent board meeting at Bretton Woods, N. H.

Cole said he felt that a solution could be found, at least with regard to prints, because "the Government does not own the films" loaned for service showings abroad. A check-up with distributor representatives and War Activities Committee officials disclosed the fact that the companies have not relinquished title to the "gift" prints but that no provision has been made for their return. In most instances, one distributor spokesman said, the Government shows the pic-

(*Continued on page 8*)

52 Millions Pay Regular Admissions

See Boost This Year in 'Full Price' Patrons

The industry appears to be getting results in its overall campaign to build greater theatre attendance by more individual patrons and to encourage more frequent attendance on the part of those paying full admission prices.

Estimates of the number of patrons paying full admission prices at the box offices of film theatres, counting actual patrons and not the number of weekly visits, is now over 52,000,000, according to George H. Gallup's Audience Research

(*Continued on page 8*)

Canada Rules on 'Bell', Other Films

TORONTO, Sept. 18.—J. R. Croft, newly-appointed administrator of services of the Canadian Wartime Prices and Trade Board, has issued terms under which Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "Sign of the Cross" may be sold to Canadian exhibitors in 1944-45, permission having previously been refused for the release of the former feature as a roadshow at advanced prices under the trade stabilization policy of the government board.

It was ruled that "Bell" may be pur-

(*Continued on page 9*)

Lights Go on Oct. 1 In Toronto Area

TORONTO, Sept. 18.—The lights will go on again Oct. 1 in Toronto and vicinity, according to a Government source today.

Except for places in combat zones, the Southern Ontario area was believed to be the last section on earth still dimmed out, and Canada's power controller was finally aroused to action when Toronto officials revealed in a protest that a huge surplus of power was being delivered from here to the United States, where signs have been illuminated for many weeks.

Famous Players-Canadian has already ordered a full supply of electric bulbs to light up its theatre marquees, which have been dark for three years.

F. D. R. Tribute to Schenck on 'Dimes'

Characterizing the industry's 1944 March of Dimes campaign as "a truly magnificent job," President Roosevelt, in a letter to Nicholas M. Scheck, industry chairman of the drive, has expressed "sincere personal congratulations and appreciation for a success beyond all expectations."

Commenting on a report of the $2,219,669 theatre collection check for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, presented by Schenck at the White House, Sept. 7, the President wrote: "Because the motion picture theatre is so close to the hearts of Americans, you have succeeded in interesting millions and millions in this crusade."

Columbia Sets 2-Day Chicago Meeting

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—Columbia will hold a special two-day meeting, commencing Wednesday, at the Drake Hotel, here, at which home office executives and all district managers will attend. On the agenda are discussions on distribution, advertising and publicity of the Muni-Oberon "A Song to Remember," on which $500,000 will be spent on a public campaign.

Home office executives attending will include: A. Montague, general sales manager, who will preside; Rube Jackter, assistant general sales manager; Lou Weinberg, circuit sales executive; George Josephs, manager of sales accounting; H. C. Kaufman, manager of exchange operations; Seth Raisler, manager of the contract department, and Vincent Borelli, sales department. Louis Astor, circuit sales executive currently on a business trip, will interrupt his tour to join the group in Chicago.

District sales managers scheduled to be present are: Sam Galanty, Eastern district; Jerome Safron, West; Carl Shalit, Central; B. C. Marcus, Midwest; R. J. Ingram, Southeast, and J. B. Underwood, Southwest.

Kennedy Kin Killed

The Marquis of Hartington, husband of Kathleen Kennedy, daughter of former U. S. Ambassador to England and film executive Joseph P. Kennedy, has been killed in action in France, according to press dispatches reaching here from London. The Kennedys were recently informed by the Navy Department of the death abroad of their son, Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., 27. Another son, Lt. John, recently returned to this country after service in the South Pacific.

Al Selig Joins 20th

Al Selig, film publicist, has been named by Hal Horne to handle special exploitation assignments at 20th Century-Fox under Rodney Bush. Selig will work out of the home office.

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO's general sales manager, will leave tonight for Toronto to confer with LEO M. DEVANEY, Canadian division sales manager.

•

SGT. SIDNEY GANS, former Columbia New England exploiteer, is now serving with an Army public relations staff in France following his recent release from an English hospital.

•

ELIZABETH C. MCCAFFREY, Philadelphia United Artists office exchange manager, has rounded out 25 years of service with the company.

•

ADRIAN J. RYAN, Eastman Kodak employee, is the 11,000th person to enter military service from that organization.

•

MELL KOFF, owner of the Darby, Philadelphia, and a salesman for United Artists, became the father of a daughter recently.

•

CHARLEY DOLDE, former manager of the Family Theatre, Philadelphia, has been honorably discharged from the Marine Corps.

•

EDWARD BERGIN, manager of the State Theatre, Chester, Pa., and NANCY PAWNLACK, were married recently.

•

MAX FINN, general manager for the E. M. Loew circuit, New England, was a recent Hartford visitor.

•

BEN BLUMBERG, of National Theatre Supply, Philadelphia, has left for the seashore to recuperate from illness.

•

JULES LEVEY, producer for United Artists, has left for Hollywood.

LT. THOMAS G. ARTHUR, formerly with Fanchon & Marco, has been awarded the Air Medal with three oak clusters, his father, HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR., has been advised.

•

JAMES FERRARA, manager of the Lyric Theatre, Landisville, N. J., was hospitalized at West Jersey Hospital, Camden, N. J., following an automobile accident last week.

•

DWIGHT VAN METER, former manager of the Astor Theatre, Reading Pa., now a Marine staff sergeant stationed in Philadelphia, is the father of a son.

•

J. C. BROWN, Washington bureau chief for News of the Day, has become engaged to BELLE FENSTERSTOCK, professionally known as BELLE FENSTOCK, composer and painter.

•

RUTH MEYERS of JOE FARROW's M-G-M exchange in Philadelphia, has left for Florida where she will marry PO/3C HERMAN CRAFT.

•

W. P. MCGEACHIE has returned after an illness of one year to manage the Orpheum Theatre, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

•

TOM REED, assistant to HARRY JOE BROWN of Producers Corporation of America, will arrive here today from Washington and Hollywood.

•

HANK WALL, Warner publicist, is confined to his home suffering from a streptococcus throat.

•

BEN KATZ, Midwest publicity head for Universal, was on the sick list last week at his home in Chicago.

'Chicago Tribune' Cuts Another 5%

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—The *Chicago Tribune* will cut all film advertising another five per cent for the final quarter of 1944, C. W. Steffens, amusement department editor, reveals, bringing the total cut to 25 per cent. All other dailies here have been running 15 to 20 per cent below normal, but no further cuts have been announced by others for the final quarter.

Harley Back in England

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Francis Harley, 20th Century-Fox managing director for Great Britain, has returned here following several months in the United States. He accompanied Sypros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, to that country last Spring at the conclusion of Skouras's extended conferences with J. Arthur Rank and the signing of the Rank-20th-Fox joint production agreement.

Blumberg Decorated

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18.—Albert Blumberg, 36, former manager of Warners' Midway here, has been promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant and decorated with the Silver Star "for gallantry in action."

Goldstein's 'V' Message

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Sept. 18.—Nathan E. Goldstein, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, has written a screen message which is now running in all theatres in that circuit, urging patrons to remain calm when news of victory in the war against Germany is flashed. In part the message reads: "Let us welcome the news of the European victory when it comes, not with hilarity and unrestrained festivity but with solemn thanksgiving."

Variety Plans Reception

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—The local Variety Club will resume its Fall activities Sept. 30 with a reception at its Blackstone Hotel headquarters here. Eddie Brunell will be chairman of the affair, assisted by Ted Levy, Harry Blumenthal, Abe Platt, Lester Simansky, Fred Midlin and Lester Stepner.

Leigh Back to 'Caesar'

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Vivien Leigh, confined to a nursing home for the past three weeks, will be discharged in time to resume work next week in Gabriel Pascal's production of "Caesar and Cleopatra."

WPB Aids Repair of Storm-Struck Houses

BOSTON, Sept. 18.—The War Production Board has promised immediate approval of material requisitions to cover theatres in need of repair or reconstruction as a result of the hurricane of last Thursday. However, the WPB stated that priorities must first go for buildings essential to housing.

Few Massachusetts theatres were seriously damaged in the storm. In New Bedford and Fall River, as well as on Cape Cod, several small theatres were put out of operation.

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER! 2nd WEEK!
"STORM OVER LISBON"
A Republic Picture
starring
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
RICHARD ARLEN
ERICH VON STROHEIM
with Otto Kruger—Eduardo Ciannelli
Robert Livingston—Mona Barrie
AIR COOLED
REPUBLIC THEATRE
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd
Tel. Co. 5-9647

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation — Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER — TERESA WRIGHT
in International Pictures'
"CASANOVA BROWN"
FRANK MORGAN — ANITA LOUISE
Distributed through R.K.O. Radio Pictures Inc.
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Alan Marshal • Laraine Day
'BRIDE BY MISTAKE'
Marsha Hunt • Allyn Joslyn
Edgar Buchanann

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's New Musical
'MEET THE PEOPLE'
LUCILLE BALL
DICK POWELL
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
& HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
TOMMY DIX

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

PAY OFF IN THE PACIFIC!
WING AND A PRAYER
"THE STORY OF CARRIER X"
20TH CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
BRANDT'S GLOBE B'way & 46 St.
BRANDT'S GOTHAM B'way & 47 St.

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Right this way....




CAROLINA
THE GAYEST
oKAYest MUSICAL
THAT EVER
CAME OUT
OF DIXIE !

BLUES

COLUMBIA PICTURES

COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents





CAROLINA BLUES



co-starring

KAY KYSER ★ ANN MILLER ★ VICTOR MOORE

with JEFF DONNELL · ISH KABIBBLE · GEORGIA CARROLL
HARRY BABBITT · SULLY MASON · DIANE PENDLETON

Screen play by Joseph Hoffman and Al Martin
Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF · Directed by LEIGH JASON

and KAY KYSER'S BAND
Playing 6 Swell Song Hits!

KEEP SELLING WAR BONDS! FIGHT BY THE SIDE OF THE TROOPS WHO NEVER STOP!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Hollywood Set for Expansion by Blue

Hollywood is importantly included in the Blue Network's postwar building expansion program, along with New York, Chicago and San Francisco, it was announced here yesterday by Edward J. Noble, board chairman, who also announced that a reorganization of responsibilities of officials in this network has resulted in a 60 per cent increase in business, and by "a determination to intensify efforts in the fields of television, frequency modulation and facsimile."

Chester J. LaRoche has been elected vice-chairman of the board and becomes the chief executive officer of the company, the announcement stated, and as part of his duties, he will supervise program activities. Mark Woods, president, will work directly with LaRoche in executive responsibility for operation. In addition, Woods will assume duties formerly carried out by Edgar Kobak, who, as executive vice-president, will direct the plans for television, frequency modulation, facsimile and international broadcasting. He will also supervise studio expansion throughout the country.

UA to Release 'France'

"Inside France" will be the next release in the World in Action series, being distributed in this country by United Artists. The film is being prepared for immediate release in the U. S. and Central and South America.

Review

"Machine Gun Mama"

(PRC)

PRC's discovery, Armida, aided by El Brendel and Luis Alberni, masters of slapstick, and Wallace Ford, apparently had a good deal of fun making "Machine Gun Mama." Their zip and enthusiasm makes for a satisfying hour of light entertainment. The title, however, is misleading, the most potent weapon appearing on the scene being a large wooden mallet.

The story places Ford and Brendel in Mexico with an elephant. Armida and her father, operators of a not-too-successful carnival, buy the elephant and the animal boosts business. Jack LaRue, a creditor, is attempting to get control of the show and is moderately successful until Ford arrives. Complications arise when police appear looking for two Americans. It looks like 'curtains' for the heroes, but a cute twist at the finish clears them and LaRue winds up in jail. Ford and Armida provide the romance.

Director Harold Young capably handled the script by Sam Neuman. The cast performs satisfactorily and the elephant rates a special hand. She's terrific. Jack Schwarz produced.

Running time, 61 minutes. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Monogram in Canada Names New Mgrs.

TORONTO, Sept. 18.—Monogram Pictures of Canada, Ltd., reports several changes in management, through general manager Harry A. Kaufman.

George Lynch has replaced Max Phillett as Calgary manager; Irving Sourkes has replaced I. H. Allen in Montreal; in Winnipeg, Victor Rackow succeeds Abe Feinstein.

Blanstein, Polansky Promoted by Empire

TORONTO, Sept. 18.—Wolfe Blanstein, formerly Empire-Universal branch manager in Calgary, has been named manager in Winnipeg. Joseph Polansky, former salesman for Empire-Universal in Toronto, has been made manager at Calgary and Harry Gould, former head booker here, has been promoted to the sales vacancy.

SAG Elects Board And New Officers

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—The following were elected to the board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild in its annual election, results of which were announced last night: Edward Arnold, Anne Baxter, Charles Boyer, Joseph Cotten, Laraine Day, John Garfield, Alan Hale, Porter Hall, Paul Harvey, Rex Ingram and Regis Toomey.

Lena Horne and Gene Kelly were elected for one-year terms as directors, and Dorothy Tree for a two-year term, to replace directors who resigned during the year.

The following officers, unopposed, were elected: George Murphy, president; Paul Harvey, first vice-president; Walter Abel, second vice-president; Laraine Day, third vice-president; Lucile Gleason, recording secretary; Russell Hicks, treasurer.

Raystan Asks End of Earle's Clearance

Raystan Theatre Corp., operating the Earle Theatre, Jackson Heights, Queens, has filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies in the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

The complainant alleges that the seven-day clearance granted by the distributors to the Granada Theatre, Corona, Queens, is unreasonable as to area and asks that all clearance be eliminated.



Production on Increase, 47 Now in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—Production, which has been in the doldrums for some time, has taken a sudden upward spurt with work started on 12 features, and only seven finished, bringing the total number in work to 47, compared with 41 one week ago. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Eadie Was a Lady," with Ann Miller, Joe Besser, Hal McIntyre and Band, Jeff Donnell, William Wright; "Sing Me a Song of Texas," with Pinky Tomlin, Rosemary Lane, Big Boy Williams, Tom Tyler, Slim Summerville.

Shooting: "Counterattack," "Song of Tahiti," "A Woman's Privilege."

M-G-M

Finished: "Telltale Hands."

Started: "Valley of Decision," with Greer Garson, Gregory Peck, Lionel Barrymore, Marsha Hunt, Hume Cronyn.

Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock," "Anchors Aweigh," "Son of Lassie."

Monogram

Started: "Saddle Smoke," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Jennifer Holt.

Shooting: "Mystery Mansion."

Paramount

Finished: "Kitty."

Started: "Miss Susie Slagle's," with Sonny Tufts, Veronica Lake, Lillian Gish.

Shooting: "Salty O'Rourke."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Pan-Americana."

Started: "Zombie on Broadway," with Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Anne Jeffreys, Bela Lugosi, Sheldon Leonard, Frank Jenks; "Tarzan and the Amazons," with Johnny Weismuller, Brenda Joyce and John Sheffield (Lesser).

Shooting: "China Sky," "Isle of the Dead" (temporarily suspended), "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn).

Republic

Finished: "The Big Bonanza."

Started: "Hitchhike to Happiness," with Al Pearce, Dale Evans, Brad Taylor; "The Great Flamarion" (William Wilder), with Erich Von Stroheim, Mary Beth Hughes, Dan Duryea, Steve Barclay.

Shooting: "The Great Stagecoach Robbery," "Grissly's Millions," "Lake Placid Serenade."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Winged Victory."

Shooting: "Where Do We Go from Here?," "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Nob Hill."

United Artists

Started: "It's in the Bag," (Skirball), with Fred Allen, John Carradine. Binnie Barnes.

Shooting: "Hold Autumn in Your Hand," (Bronston); "High Among the Stars" (Rogers); "Brewster's Millions" (Small); "Spellbound" (Vanguard) (formerly "The House of Dr. Edwardes.")

Universal

Finished: "Jungle Captive," "Can't Help Singing."

Started: "The Suspect," with Charles Laughton, Ella Raines, Dean Harens; "Salome — Where She Danced," with Rod Cameron, "Frisco Sal," with Susanna Foster, Turhan Bey, Alan Curtis.

Shooting: "The Fugitive."

Warners

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "The Corn Is Green," "Nobody Lives Forever."

Independents

Shooting: "A Boy, a Girl and a Dog" (W. R. Frank).

52 Million Patrons Pay Full Prices Weekly

(*Continued from page* 1)

Bureau, and an even further increase over the weekly 50,000,000 estimated for 1942 is expected to be shown when final Gallup figures for 1944 become available some weeks from now.

This total excludes cut-rate-paying customers, children's admissions, free passes, free or cut-rate service men's admissions, and free attendance on the part of shut-ins and others at institutions.

Overall estimates of weekly attendance run anywhere between 85,000,000 and 100,000,000, Audience Research pointing out that there are over 10,000,000 admissions—not individuals—for servicemen and women in the Armed Forces in the U. S. who either see films without charge or pay reduced prices. Further, there are an estimated 17,000,000 youngsters in the United States and some 18,000,000 more people in institutions and other "collective" situations who do not pay full admission prices or who do not pay any admissions.

Audience Research estimates that there are between 80,000,000 and 90,000,000 people in the U. S. available for theatres at full admissions. Of this total, according to the Gallup group, 10,000,000 persons "just don't go to theatres." A large portion of the remainder attend theatres only three and four times a year, supporting the better films, according to Albert H. Sindlinger, executive vice-president of Audience Research.

Public's Two Questions

"The public asks two questions, whether orally or subconsciously before making up its mind to see a particular film," Sindlinger told MOTION PICTURE DAILY. These questions are: "Who is in it?" and "What is it about?" "The potential gross of a film is affected by the answers to these questions," Sindlinger said.

"There are many new faces in first-run theatres," it was said. "The public today is better acquainted with films than ever before," Audience Research attributing this to a better preselling job being done by the distributors.

Blumenfeld, Wobber Head Coast Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

Bros., second vice-president, and Abe Blumenfeld, Blumenfeld Theatres, treasurer.

On the board of directors are: B. V. Sturdivant, division manager, Fox West Coast Theatres; Irving Ackerman, Downtown Amusement Co.; Robert McNeil, Golden State Theatres; William David, Redwood Theatres; Cliff Geissman, RKO's Golden Gate Theatres; Rotus Harvey, Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California; Ben Levin, General Theatrical Co.; Robert Lippert, Lippert Theatres, Inc., and Mike Naify, T. and D., Jr., Enterprises.

Blumenfeld announced that theatres here will not close on the receipt of news of Germany's fall unless local conditions make it necessary to do so.

"We believe the defeat of Germany should not be celebrated with riotous celebration, rather America should consider it a solemn occasion, a day of prayer," Blumenfeld declared.

Companies Retain Gift-Film Title

(*Continued from page* 1)

tures "until there is nothing left but the sprocket holes." Greater cause for worry, it was indicated, lies in the possible salvage sale of 16mm and 35mm projection equipment, especially the latter.

Serving with Cole on the Allied committee are Nathan Yamins of Massachusetts and Harry Lowenstein of New Jersey.

Yamins, Cole and Sidney E. Samuelson of Eastern Pennsylvania constitute another Allied committee, charged with submitting to the Internal Revenue Bureau, for approval, a new method of numbering theatre tickets, designed to protect exhibitors from revealing "intimate" details of their business," especially on percentage playing. "At present," Cole explained, "the gross for a house can be determined simply by purchasing the first ticket Monday morning and the last one Sunday night." He did not disclose details of the plan prior to Government sanction.

Ginsberg Completes Para. Studio Setup

(*Continued from page* 1)

from the Hal Wallis and B. G. De Sylva independent units and six or more from the Pine-Thomas organization, Henry Ginsberg, studio general manager, announced today following a month spent in reorganizing Paramount's production structure.

Ginsberg's top aides will be Frank Butler, writer, and Joseph Sistrom, producer, with William Meikeljohn continuing in charge of talent. Producers working directly for the studio are: Charles Brackett, Danny Dare, Lou Harris, John Houseman, Paul Jones, Fred Kohlmar, E. D. Leshin, Kenneth MacGowan, Seton I. Miller, Harry Tugend and Karl Tunberg.

WB Post-War Studio Needs Are Technical

(*Continued from page* 1)

reporting daily since Sept. 12 on Hollywood's studio needs accruing since the WPB and various other Federal war-agencies curtailed or ordered withheld metals or other materials.

With 22 stages available in one of the most modern and latterly built studios here, Warners is not faced with any need to add physically to its structural layout in Burbank. Evidently, planning prior to the outbreak of hostilities resulted in putting the studio in fortunate position. About a dozen Mitchell cameras were added and the studio's stock of aluminum was fortified to an extent which reaps a comfortable reward now. Warners has a large machine shop, thoroughly equipped and perhaps the largest of any Hollywood studio. Shortages of materials, particularly metals, have been accommodated in part by recastings and the extracting of maximum use from supplies on hand.

No Blueprints Yet

While officials at Columbia readily acknowledge the need for additional stages and vaults, they state no blueprints have been drawn as yet. There will be changes, but the extent to which they will reach is an undetermined factor at this juncture.

Like practically all studios in Hollywood, Columbia quietly has been lining up real estate adjacent to the existing studio which stretches south on Gower St. off Santa Monica Boulevard. Additional parcels on Gower St. and Beachwood Ave. are believed to figure in the plans, but no specific information is available on this score.

Currently, Columbia has 10 stages in operation. Overflow production is accommodated at the Darmour Studio where there are four stages. The company also has had occasion to rent additional space at the California Studio.

Variety Clubs Will Plan Postwar Role

(*Continued from page* 1)

Activities Committee cooperation and charity work for the coming year.

At a dinner climaxing the meeting, with top industry executives from New York and the Coast invited, Variety will present its anual "Humanitarian Award" to a winner selected by a committee of newspaper and magazine publishers and others.

R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker, will preside, assisted by his predecessor, John H. Harris, who now holds the post of Variety "Big Boss." The meeting will be sponsored by the Washington tent, with Washington's Carter Barron, first assistant national chief barker, handling details prior to the appointment of committees. Cooperation on behalf of the national tent will be furnished by Ray Beall of Texas and Chick Lewis, national director of public relations.

Broadway Grosses Regain Most of Hurricane Losses

(*Continued from page* 1)

previous picture has played more than five weeks, will end its seventh tomorrow with a probable $110,000, better by $7,000 than the sixth week. Actual receipts for five days through Sunday were $68,000. The film, supplemented by Fred Waring's orchestra on stage, will run until Sept. 27, when "Greenwich Village" will take over. "Bride by Mistake" had a big week at the Palace, taking $14,000 in the first three days, through Sunday, and should do $27,000 for seven days this Thursday. A three or four week run is indicated before "Music in Manhattan" arrives at this house.

'Seventh Cross' Sept. 27

At the Capitol, "Since You Went Away" and a stage show headed by Gene Krupa's orchestra promises a very good $75,000 for its ninth week ending tomorrow; it will hold until Sept. 27, when "The Seventh Cross" and Horace Heidt's orchestra are due. At the Paramount, "Double Indemnity," plus Mitchell Ayres' band, should come up by Wednesday with a very good $82,000 for a second week and looks good for a five-week run before bowing out in favor of "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," plus Frank Sinatra on the stage. At the Astor, "Kismet," slated to hold for "many weeks," according to the management, will conclude its fourth tonight by approximately tying the approximate $40,000 of the third; no successor is being even mentioned. At the Rivoli, "Till We Meet Again" will say goodbye tonight after an average $26,000 third week, and "Frenchman's Creek" will arrive the next morning.

'Wing and a Prayer's' Take

"Wing and a Prayer," in its third simultaneous week at two houses, is holding up fairly well; $13,000 is expected at the Globe by Saturday night and $9,000 at the Gotham. "Barbary Coast Gent" will enter the former house on Sept. 27, and "Dangerous Journey" goes to the latter on the 30th. "Storm Over Lisbon" at the Republic will finish its second week Saturday with a satisfactory $7,700 and will hold for a third.

Loew's Criterion, expecting to bring in "The Impatient Years" tomorrow, will premiere the film today instead, after getting $20,000 for the fifth week of "In Society." "The Big Noise" will open Friday at the Rialto, where "Soul of a Monster" is headed for a $7,000 second week, a fair take bolstered by a subway entrance, which ushered patrons in during the hurricane. The Victoria, preparing to play "Wilson" on a moveover on Sept. 27, will keep "Enemy of Women" for a third week until then. The second, ending Friday, promises a pretty good $9,700.

'Brown' in Brittany

Wounded American prisoners captured on "D" Day and recaptured by the U. S. in a German hospital during the Brittany drive were among the 9,500 soldiers who attended the first world premiere of a motion picture in liberated France, RKO has reported here. The film was "Casanova Brown," simultaneously shown to the 1st and 3rd American armies and the 9th Air Force in 16 locations.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



WORLD PREMIERE TOMORROW OF "FRENCHMAN'S CREEK," PARAMOUNT'S MAGNIFICENT TECHNICOLORED PICTURIZATION OF THE DARING LOVE STORY BY THE AUTHOR OF "REBECCA." READ BY MILLIONS IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, THE STORY WILL REACH THE SCREEN FIRST AT NEW YORK RIVOLI, SCENE OF "BELL TOLLS" AND "DR. WASSELL" TRIUMPHS. JOAN FONTAINE AND ARTURO DE CORDOVA HEAD A BRILLIANT CAST INCLUDING HUNDREDS OF PLAYERS IN SWASHBUCKLING COMBAT, IN THIS GREATEST OF HITS FOR PRODUCER-DIRECTOR MITCHELL LEISEN, WHO MADE "LADY IN THE DARK."

Canada Rules on 'Bell', Other Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

chased individually by an exhibitor and without the conditional signing of any other pictures on Paramount's new season schedule by any exhibitor having a contract with that company during the basic period prior to Oct. 12, 1941, this being interpreted as an agreement for the rental of not less than six features of the 1940-41 releasing period or an agreement for at least six 1941-42 features signed before Oct. 12, 1941. The ruling also states that exhibitors are not required to sign for "Bell" in order to obtain other Paramount productions of 1944-45. Paramount is permitted to sell "Bell" for top terms previously designated by the board which means that it may be sold on a 50-50 percentage basis, this ratio having been announced as top percentage by the previous administrator, R. G. McMullen.

Wartime Board's Approval

"Sign of the Cross" has been approved by the Wartime Board as the only other picture in the special category to be released by Paramount.

Administrator Croft has issued permission to RKO to sell four features of International Pictures as specials in the new season, these being "Belle of the Yukon," "The Woman in the Window," "Casanova Brown" and "It's a Pleasure." They are to be offered first to exhibitors having basic contracts with RKO, signed before Oct. 12, 1941; they can be bought separately by such exhibitors and the sale is not to be made conditional on the sale of any other product.

The special ruling in connection with the four productions is understood to have been made because International Pictures is a newly-formed producing comany and does not come under the basic-contract period prior to Oct. 12, 1941. RKO is permitted to charge 50 per cent top rental for one or all of the four specials, according to the board's announcement.

Golden to Film the Story of the FBI

(*Continued from page* 1)

ter Race," at Dallas, Oct. 18. Subsequent sectional premieres of the picture will be held in Boston, Oct. 25; Omaha, Oct. 25, and Chicago, Oct. 26.

Edward Golden predicted yesterday that his new "The Master Race," will outgross his earlier production, "Hitler's Children," by 25 per cent. The latter picture has grossed approximately $3,500,000. RKO Radio, distributor of "The Master Race," has ordered 300 prints, the maximum number authorized by the WPB.

Briskin Plans Uncertain

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18. — Samuel J. Briskin stated here that he has no future plans following the mutual cancellation of his six-year Columbia contract. The pact again became operative last July 10 following Briskin's retirement from military service and he had been preparing three pictures for production. He may remain at Columbia until these are completed, although this is not definite. Briskin's resignation presages no changes in its production line up, according to Columbia.

'Wilson' Is Elected Cincinnati Tops

CINCINNATI, Sept. 18.—"Wilson" is on its way to $13,000 at advanced prices on its second week at RKO's Capitol. "The Seventh Cross" will give RKO's Palace an estimated $15,000, with "I Love a Soldier" heading for $14,500 at RKO's Albee.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 20-23:

"I Love a Soldier (Para.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,500).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (40c-55c-75c-$1.10) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average at 44c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000).
"Port of Forty Thieves" (Rep.)
"Swing in the Saddle" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400).
"Stars on Parade" (Col.)
"Marshal of Reno" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 3rd week, following initial week at the Albee and a second week at the Grand. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).
"Secret Command" (Col.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

Eastman Sees No Production Relief

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 18.—Eastman Kodak officials expect present film and other production to be maintained following the defeat of Germany. They point out that the Navy has indicated its needs will continue to increase through the first six months of 1945 even though some Army contracts may be curtailed. The bulk of Kodak's war contracts are now Navy. The prospect of immediate lifting of restrictions on output for civilian use by the War Production Board at the end of the European war is also cited.

According to Albert K. Chapman, vice-president and general manager of the company, many new processes and new items of equipment developed during the war will be immediately adaptable to civilian use.

Academy Puts Limit On Award Symbol

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' board of directors today issued rules limiting printed and filmed, and raido references to the award symbol, Oscar. In the main, the rules require limitation of references to the specific achievement for which the award was made and the year in which it was made. Radio references are chiefly responsible for the regulation.

'Window' Screening Oct.9

International Pictures' "The Woman in the Window," second of four International productions to be distributed by RKO, will be nationally trade screened on Monday, Oct. 9.

Reviews

"Babes on Swing Street"

(Universal)

WITHOUT benefit of Donald O'Connor, Ann Blyth and Peggy Ryan commendably carry the burden of "Babes on Swing Street," the musical hijinks of which will intrigue the younger set and not a few adults. To fill in the bare spot on the marquee that is habitually occupied by O'Connor's name, there are Andy Devine and Leon Errol, dependable as ever. Inez James and Sidney Miller have written some songs that are strictly in the swing idiom; Edward Lilley directed for pace, while the principals exhibit a good deal of youthful exuberance.

Howard Dimsdale and Eugene Conrad's screenplay, from Brenda Weisberg's original, offers a slender peg upon which to hang the musical sequences. When the director of a conservatory offers musical scholarships to a settlement club, with the catch that the recipients must pay a minimum toward their tuition, the members of the club decide to sponsor a juvenile night club to raise funds. Only complication is the opposition of Alma Kruger, wealthy old lady who owns the building in which the night spot is housed.

Miss Ryan delivers her usual effective performance, singing and tapping her way to an ever-expanding following; June Preisser sparkles in song and dance, and Sidney Miller delivers several impersonations that are genuinely funny. Miss Blyth is appealing, while Marion Hutton, Freddie Slack and his orchestra, and The Rubenettes supply the specialties. Bernard W. Burton was associate producer.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* Release date, Oct. 27.

CHARLES RYWECK

"Ever Since Venus"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Sept. 18.

INA RAY HUTTON and her orchestra, backed by comedians Hugh Herbert, Billy Gilbert, Alan Mowbray and Fritz Feld, impart a lot of zing and go to this tale about cosmeticians, the tricks of their trade, and a girl and boy in love. It is a neat little number to give a lift to a heavy top-of-program attraction and could stand alone in territories where the competition is not terrific.

The screenplay, by McElbert Moore and Arthur Dreifuss—Dreifuss also directed—is about three men who devise and try to market a new type of lipstick, but this is merely a thread upon which are strung amusing incidents which include such matters as the writing of a hit song and many interludes in a night club. Gags are fresh and plentiful.

Songs, some of them used for production numbers, fit the script and are uniformly engaging. Some are by Bernie Wayne and Ben Raleigh, others by Lester Lee and Harry Barris.

In addition to those named, the cast contains Ann Savage, Glenda Farrell, Ross Hunter, Marjorie Gateson, Thurston Hall and Dudley Dickerson.

Running time, 73 minutes. "G."* Release date, Sept. 14.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

"Cheyenne Wildcat"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Sept. 18.

THE latest in Republic's "Red Ryder" series lives up to the standard set by its predecessors. A sound, well-constructed story, capable acting and a series of exciting incidents combine to make a more-than-satisfactory Western.

Randall Faye's original screenplay is an ingenious and plausible tale of two crooked bankers who appropriate the bank's funds to their own use, and throw suspicion upon an innocent man. The girl in the case is the young woman to whom the bank's affairs have been entrusted. The man suspected is her own father, although she is unaware of the fact. Wild Bill Elliott as Red Ryder, Bobby Blake as Little Beaver, and Alice Fleming as the Duchess, come to the aid of the innocent man and his daughter, save him from hanging and justify the girl's handling of the bank's finances.

The cast is uniformly good, and Lesley Selander's direction maintains excitement and suspense. Peggy Stewart is fine as the girl, and Elliott, Blake and Miss Fleming add to the sound characterizations they have created in previous pictures. Louis Gray is credited as associate producer.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL.

*"G" denotes general classification.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 18

GRADWELL L. SEARS, vice-president in charge of distribution for United Artists, has arrived here from New York.

•

Robert S. Golden, producer of "The Master Race," being released by RKO, will leave here for New York tomorrow to confer with Edward Golden on properties the Goldens have acquired for future production.

•

Republic Pictures has given Thomas Carr a producership and has assigned him "Sheriff of Cimmaron," the first feature starring Sunset Carson. Carr was formerly assistant to Allen Wilson, head of the studio.

•

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity manager, has arrived here from the East, to remain for 10 days.

•

Harold Wilson, executive assistant to B. G. DeSylva for the past four years, has joined DeSylva Productions as associate producer.

•

Martin Jurow, formerly with Warners in charge of developing young talent, has joined Hal Wallis as assistant.

•

Lou Pollock, director of advertising-publicity for United Artists, will leave next Friday for New York.

•

PRC has signed Betty Pagel, formerly with Republic Pictures, as casting director.

•

Warners has extended Peter Godfrey's directorial contract.

MGM Short Features For Long Programs

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—M-G-M is experimenting with a plan for the production of a series of short features designed for programs using productions whose running time is in excess of two hours. The first such short feature planned is "Telltale Hands," to be produced by Jerry Bresler, general manager of the short subjects department, which will run about one hour and possibly less.

The reception accorded this first effort will largely determine future policy, but it is reasonably certain others of the same length will follow.

'Wilson' Va. Premiere

The Virginia premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "Wilson" was held last night at Warners' Dixie Theatre in Staunton, birthplace of Woodrow Wilson. A buffet supper for 100 guests, including Gov. Colgate Darden, Senator Harry Byrd and others, was served at the Wilson birthplace. Frank LaFalce of Warners is in charge of the campaign.

Goldman Case ComingUp

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18.—The William Goldman anti-trust hearing is scheduled to come up during October or November when the next session of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals is held.

ASK THESE FOLKS:

"Can you spare something for the USO and other patriotic charities?"

You know the answer!



Mister Exhibitor, these people are not going to be asked to give in your theatre (no collections)! We just hope you'll let them know that the NATIONAL WAR FUND DRIVE is for a good cause. Please run the Quentin Reynolds short "Memo For Joe"—available from RKO. And during the Drive there will be just a two-minute trailer available through your local War Chest Campaign. The Drive is from Sept. 20th to Nov. 11th. Thanks!

P. S. Every man and woman in film business, home offices, exchanges, studios, theatres, should consider it a sacred duty to give liberally to the humanitarian National War Fund through their local united campaign.

Sponsored by War Activities Committee of Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, N. Y. C.

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COPPER is still on the critical shortage list of essential war materials. It was never more necessary that every last possible ounce of it be saved.

The copper that drops from your Victory and "Orotip" Carbons to the bottom of your lamp housings, and that which you strip from stubs, quickly finds its way back into essential products of war when you turn it in to your distributor or local salvage headquarters.

Your cooperation has been most effective. Your Government urges you to keep it up! And for further saving of copper . . . and for efficient use of carbons . . . a bulletin describing completely the operation of Victory High Intensity Carbons . . . "National," "Suprex," and "Orotip" . . . has been in general distribution. If you have not received your copy, write today. National Carbon Company, Inc., Cleveland 1, Ohio, Dept. 9-I.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 56 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1944 TEN CENTS

SMPE Seeks Video Lanes For Industry

Files Report with RTPB For Needed Frequencies

The film industry's first move to secure television frequency channels for a potentially extensive use of "video" programs in theatres in the post war, came yesterday when a report prepared by a television subcommittee of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers was filed with the Radio Technical Planning Board's Television Panel No. 6.

The same report will be presented to the Federal Communications Commission which will start hearings Sept. 28 in Washington on post-war frequency allocations for television and all other electronic communications.

The industry's report, which was

(Continued on page 2)

Hertz to Set Drive Promotion Today

Advertising and promotional phases of the industry's Sixth War Loan drive will be determined today at a meeting here of advertising, publicity and exploitation executives. The industry drive, under chairman Harry Brandt, is scheduled to open in November.

Today's conference, called by John Hertz, Jr., national director of promotion of the industry campaign, will be held at War Activities Committee headquarters. Hertz will be flanked

(Continued on page 2)

Equity Council Votes Approval of Merger

Actors Equity Council yesterday approved "in principle" the proposed merger plan drawn up by a joint merger committee for one big union of the actor groups. The plan was approved with revisions. Other unions such as the Screen Actors Guild, Chorus Equity, American Federation of Radio Artists, American Guild of Musical Artists and the American Guild of Variety Artists have until Oct. 1 to report back to the merger committee their decisions.

Early Liquidation Of War Agencies

Washington, Sept. 19.—President Roosevelt today set the wheels in motion for liquidation of the War Production Board, Office of Censorship and other war agencies. The development of a program to this end was placed by the President in the hands of budget director Harold D. Smith.

At the budget bureau it was disclosed that all war agencies already had been told that estimates for the next fiscal year should be predicated on three bases: suspension of hostilities on one front; end of the war in its entirety; or continuance in all sectors.

RKO Pension Plan to U.S.

RKO's employes' pension plan has been completed and was sent to Washington yesterday to the U. S. Treasury for approval. The Treasury had previously indicated that the plan retroactive to Jan 1, would meet with its approval as originally presented.

The plan will cost RKO about $360,000 during its first year, exclusive of group insurance provisions which provide for paid up life insurance for employes. Cost of the insurance policy, underwritten by Equitable

(Continued on page 2)

Arthur Injunction In St. Louis May Follow N.Y. Move

Filing of an injunction suit in the St. Louis Federal District Court to estop the arbitration tribunal in that city from proceeding with the arbitration case brought by Albert Rosecan of the Princess Theatre, that city, to reduce the clearance held by several Harry Arthur-St. Louis Amusement Co. houses, is expected to follow a motion set for filing this week in the New York Federal District Court by Russell Hardy, Arthur counsel, to vacate the consent decree or to incorporate therein an express exception with regard to theatres operated by Arthur.

[Contrary to reports published here yesterday that Hardy's motion had already been filed, Minton and Murphy, his attorneys of record in New York, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY

(Continued on page 9)

New $1,450,000 Loan For Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19.—Monogram has negotiated a new $1,450,000 loan with the Security First National Bank and California Bank, both Los Angeles, and Guaranty Trust, New York. The loan, it is understood, will be applied to Monogram's 1944-45 production program and also will help underwrite a $1,000,000 studio improvement program which was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Sept. 12.

"Frenchman's Creek"

[*Paramount*]

Hollywood, Sept. 19

TO get going with "Frenchman's Creek" by remarking it is out of this world is to get going with a very literal remark. The place is England, the time is the 17th century, and its piratical events have nothing at all to do with the kind of events currently under way in Western Europe and the Pacific. Escapism is not only the key, it is the whole structure. In these days of widespread reaction against pictures concerning war, the point can be highly important. Probably is, too.

There are others. This attraction, made with an open pocketbook by producer David Lewis and director Mitchell Leisen, is compounded from a best-seller by Daphne du Maurier. It is also the first pirate picture since Tyrone Power swaggered his way through "The Black Swan" two years ago. By that approach, strong values not available to ticket buyers from any other current direction are suggested.

Plus-value on its ledger is an excellent performance by Joan Fontaine who registers so beautifully in color that she might well be regarded as one of Hollywood's luminaries for whom this process could have been

(Continued on page 9)

U.S. Companies Soon in Europe Riskin Predicts

Industry Representative MayTake Over from OWI

Robert Riskin, director of the Office of War Information overseas motion picture bureau, told MOTON PICTURE DAILY here yesterday that it may only be "a matter of weeks" until distributors resume private operation of their business in liberated areas of Europe, especially in Italy and France. "The time is very near when we will be able to turn operation over to the companies, as soon as the military authorities give us the nod," he said.

Elsewhere, it was learned that a plan has been projected for the interim period between the time when the OWI relinquishes control to U. S. dis-

(Continued on page 9)

20th-Fox Forming International Unit

Announcement of the formation of 20th Century-Fox International Corp. is due shortly. The new company is in line with the procedure adopted by other distributors to establish foreign holding companies. Already five companies, Warners, Paramount, Loew's, Universal and Columbia, have established similar setups for their foreign operations.

The new 20th-Fox corporation will probably be headed by Murray Silverstone, foreign sales vice-president, as president, and Irving Maas, Silverstone's assistant, as vice-president.

Mexicans Lay Down Law on US Dubbing

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 19.—A committee composed of Chano Urueta, director; Marco Aurelio Galindo, scenarist-director, and Miguel Arenas, actor, has made the following recommendations about the Spanish dubbing of American pictures insofar as Mexico is concerned:

That all dubbing be done only by Mexicans; that for every dubbed American picture a Mexican film

(Continued on page 9)

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, and Roy HAINES, Western and Southern division sales manager, are on a Midwestern tour.

•

E. L. McEVOY, Universal short subjects sales manager, sustained an eye injury which required hospitalization and 12 stitches during last week's hurricane.

•

HAROLD SMITH, assistant to CARL MILLIKEN, MPPDA foreign manager, is expected back from Washington Thursday or Friday.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service, has returned to Hollywood from San Francisco.

•

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, is visiting New Haven and Boston.

•

HARRY NOVAK, Warner general manager in Argentina, will leave here Friday for the Coast.

Hertz to Set Drive Promotion Today

(Continued from page 1)

by his assistants Sumer Singer and Bill Dasheff. Hertz will introduce Tom Lane, head of advertising-publicity for the Treasury's War Finance Committee, who will outline the Treasury's approach to the drive. Hertz will also present the tentative outline for the industry effort, and will request suggestions.

Others attending will be: Mort Blumenstock, Gil Golden, Joe Tisman, Warners; Hal Horne, Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox; Frank Rosenberg, Laurence Lipskin, Columbia; S. Barret McCormick, Ben Grimm, RKO; Si Seadler, M-G-M; Oscar A. Doob, Loew's; Robert Gillham, Stanley Shuford, Paramount; Vincent Trotta, National Screen Service; Frank Moneyhun, United Artists; Glendon Allvine, Public Information Committee, and WAC representatives Francis S. Harmon, S. H. Fabian and Ed. Schreiber.

RadioManufacturers' Meet Starts Here

A three-day meeting of the Radio Manufacturers Association at the Roosevelt Hotel opened here yesterday with a gathering of the executive committee, with chairman R. C. Sprague, of the RMA parts division, presiding. Today's session will be devoted to postwar employment and other personnel problems, considered by a committee which G. W. Thompson of Columbus, Ind., heads.

Several other meetings of special groups are scheduled and reports will be prepared for presentation when the board of directors convenes tomorrow.

SMPE Seeks Video Lanes For Industry

(Continued from page 1)

adopted by the SMPE's television committee at a closed session at the Hotel Pennsylvania here Monday asks for the allocation of frequencies to make possible the direct picking up of television programs from film studios in Hollywood, and elsewhere, as well as on-the-spot events, transmitting the programs to theatres, and finally, to relay them from city to city. It stresses the "considerable requirements and needs" of the film industry as far as television channels are concerned.

Studiously Conceived

The report represents months of study by the SMPE's television subcommittee, which includes: Lester B. Isaac, Loew's projection and sound head; Earl Sponable, 20th Century-Fox; Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, consultant, and P. J. Larsen. The SMPE's main television committee, of which Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, Columbia Broadcasting engineer is chairman, includes: Paul Raibourn, Paramount; Ralph B. Austrian, RKO; Lester Isaac; C. R. Keith, Western Electric, and I. G. Maloff of RCA Victor.

The RTPB was organized last year to plan the technical future of television and radio and to advise Government, industry and the public of necessary allocations.

Paramount, which has a large interest in television, owning part of DuMont Television and also holding financial interests in Scophony, has already filed a notice of its intention to appear at the FCC hearings on channel allocations. It is expected that Raibourn will represent the company. The SMPE action, however, is general, and independent of what Paramount or any of the other film companies may do to file for television channels for theatre telecasting.

SMPE Meet to Hear Video Lighting Talk

R. E. Farnham, commercial engineer of General Electric, will discuss illuminants for television studio lighting at a Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Atlantic Coast section meeting at the Hotel Pennsylvania here next Wednesday evening.

Para. Service Gifts

Paramount will ship 450 Christmas boxes to employees of the home office and exchanges now in service.

The project is in charge of the company's servicemen's committee, of which Harry Nadel is chairman, and Joseph Doughney, Irving Singer, Joseph Wood, Al Sicignaro, William O'Connell and Albert Deane are members.

Ontario MPTA Meeting

TORONTO, Sept. 19.—The annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario has been called for Tues., Oct. 3, at the King Edward Hotel, here, according to a notice issued by Syd B. Taube, executive secretary.

20,000 Allied Prints Retaken from Nazis

The French Forces of the Interior, prior to the liberation of Paris, saved 20,000 American, British and Russian motion picture prints from possible Nazi destruction by successfully removing them from a building the Germans had requisitioned, according to a French Brazzaville radio broadcast recorded here by CBS.

The broadcast also reported that most Paris theatres, closed for the past month, will reopen next week following the restoration of power and that some of the latest American pictures will be shown immediately.

'Arsenic's' $67,000 Tops Strand 3rd Wk.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is headed for a record third week at the Strand here, with Warners estimating $67,000 for the seven days ending tomorrow. The film, supplemented by a stage show featuring Charlie Barnet's orchestra, set an opening-week record of $73,000, aided by the Labor-Day boost in business. "Arsenic's" second week at the Strand, although held down by the hurricane of last Thursday, registered a good $63,000.

At the Hollywood, "The Doughgirls," which began its third week the day before the hurricane, promises $21,000 on the basis of $17,820 taken in for six days ending yesterday.

'Holiday' in England 15% Over Last Spring

LONDON, Sept. 19.—Citing business being done by "Knickerbocker Holiday" as an example of how a box office boom throughout England has offset the slump in London caused by robot bombs, William J. Gell, representing Producers Corp. of America, Charles R. Rogers and other United Artists producers, reports that grosses for the film show a 15 percent increase over those taken in by top Spring releases.

"Holiday," booked in 1,600 British theatres, is now being prepared in French and Italian versions.

'Wilson' in RKO Houses

"Wilson," 20th Century-Fox, will open in seven RKO theatres this month, and for which an extensive publicity campaign has been launched by RKO in cooperation with 20th.

The film opened Friday at the RKO Palace in Cleveland with personal appearances of Alexander Knox, Carmen Miranda, Roddy McDowall and others. The Boston opening is scheduled for Sept. 28 at the Boston Theatre. Other bookings include the Century, Rochester, and the Syracuse Paramount, beginning tomorrow; the Colonial in Dayton Wednesday; and the Orpheum and Proctor's in Newark, Sept. 27.

RKO Pension Plan to U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

Life Assurance Society will be about $60,000 during the first year, after approximately $30,000 dividend payments.

The pension plan covers all regular RKO and subsidiary company employes between the ages of 30 and 64, after they have completed three years of service. The monthly payments to any employee at retirement age will be an amount which when added to Federal Social Security payments, will provide a minimum income of $60 a month for life. Computation of the amount of benefits after retirement are to be based on length of service with a credit for future and past services worked out on a percentage basis. Yearly pensions are equivalent to approximately one per cent of average annual salary for each year of service.

The insurance feature provides for death benefits equal to one year's salary, not to exceed $20,000. The beneficiary of a member who dies after retirement will receive $1,000.

Loew's Inc. has also instituted a pension plan for its employes with the Treasury Dept. already giving final approval.

Zukor Will Continue Hillside Testimony

Pre-trial examination of Adolph Zukor, chairman of Paramount's board of directors, in the Hillside Amusement Corp.'s $900,000 anti-trust suit against seven distributing companies remains uncompleted after three days of testimony last week and will be resumed here tomorrow. Zukor's examination is expected to continue two or three more days before testimony by Barney Balaban, Paramount president, can begin.

The examinations are being held in the offices of Hays, Podell and Schulman, plaintiff's attorneys. Testimony by Will H. Hays, MPPDA president, is scheduled to follow Balaban's.

Rodgers in K.C. Sunday

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19. — W. F. Rodgers, M-G-M distribution head, will leave for Kansas City Friday to be host to exhibitors there at a luncheon on Sunday, and will return to New York thereafter. E. W. Aaron, assistant to Rodgers, will remain here several additional weeks to complete a new film deal with Fox West Coast, which is in negotiation with Ed Zabel.

Einfeld in 'Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 19.—Charles Einfeld, Warners' director of advertising and publicity, arrived here yesterday to confer with branch manager Al Shmitken and circuit heads on special opening campaigns for "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "The Doughgirls" in this territory. Einfeld will hold meetings in Portland and Seattle before returning to Hollywood.

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M-G-MATCHLESS!

And Now Look!

His Greatest Role!

Spencer Tracy

Spencer Tracy in "The Seventh Cross" with Signe Hasso • Hume Cronyn Jessica Tandy • Agnes Moorehead • Herbert Rudley • Felix Bressart • Screen play by Helen Deutsch • Based Upon the Novel by Anna Seghers • An M-G-M Picture • Directed by Fred Zinnemann • Produced by Pandro S. Berman

TINTRACY!



"That's how you'll spell it too! First 30 engagements are dynamite! Another hit to add to all the others!"

His Greatest Role!

Spencer Tracy



the Seventh Cross

Another **BIG** M-G-M Anniversary Hit that's bringing theatres more dough than "A Guy Named Joe."

Spencer Tracy in "The Seventh Cross" with Signe Hasso • Hume Cronyn Jessica Tandy • Agnes Moorehead • Herbert Rudley • Felix Bressart • Screen play by Helen Deutsch • Based Upon the Novel by Anna Seghers • An M-G-M Picture • Directed by Fred Zinnemann • Produced by Pandro S. Berman



M-G-M's GOT THE STARS!
M-G-M's GOT THE HITS!
M-G-M's GOT FRIENDLINESS!

It's been going on a long time!

TWENTY YEARS OF LEADERSHIP
1924-1944
MGM

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Arthur Injunction In St. Louis Seen

(Continued from page 1)

that the notice of issue would be recorded with the court here today or within the next day or two, pointing out that it need be done no longer than five days in advance of Nov. 3 the date on which the motion will be "brought on for hearing" in the local district court.]

Hardy will file as counsel for the Arthur-St. Louis Amusement Ambassador Theatre, Eden Theatre, St. Louis Theatre, Inc., Fanchon and Marco Service Corp. and Service Group Theatres, all of which would be affected by any arbitration decision favorable to Rosecan.

Determination of Rights

Reiterating his resolve to secure a definite determination of the rights of his principals, which he declares have been invaded by Rosecan's action against the five consent-decree distributors, Hardy said in Washington yesterday that the New York motion would serve to show how the Government viewed the situation, since the Department of Justice may be expected to voice its approval or objections to his action. He refused to say whether he would make any further moves pending action by Judge Henry Goddard in New York, but in other Washington quarters it was stated that the logical step would be to seek to enjoin the St. Louis tribunal from proceeding.

Hearing Set Sept. 28

Rosecan's arbitration complaint has been set for hearing at the St. Louis tribunal Sept. 28, and the "psychological moment" for an injunction proceeding would be as it got under way or the day before, observers said. If a preliminary injunction were granted, it would halt the proceedings until the St. Louis court heard the case and deecided whether a permanent injunction should be granted.

The issue raised by Hardy is considered of importance to independent exhibitors since, if successful, it would nullify the whole effect of the arbitration procedure. A spokesman for independent St. Louis interests has said theatre owners are not satisfied with the present set-up but do not wish to see arbitration tossed aside, leaving them without any avenue for recourse against circuits and affiliated houses.

Notice of Hardy's impending New York motion has been served on Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General; U. S. attorney James B. McNally and the following distributor counsel: Thomas D. Thacher, Paramount; John W. Davis; Loew's; Donovan, Leisure, Newton & Lumbard, RKO; Monroe Goldwater, Keith - Albee - Orpheum; Joseph M. Proskauer, Warners, and Richard E. Dwight, 20th Century-Fox.

Hardy's motion to intervene is expected to point out that, "instead of enjoining the unlawful combination, conspiracy and concerted actions" stated in the Government's original complaint, "this court has undertaken to confer upon the American Arbitration Association full and final jurisdiction of controversies; that the power conferred upon the AAA expired Nov. 19, 1943, and no action has been taken by the court to continue it; that "the decree does not require, and if modified" (pursuant) to the Government's recent application) "will not require, the arbitrator to consider any relationship of clearance to the violation of law or to consider whether the clearance was made in pursuance of unlawful combinations"; and, that the court has undertaken to confer upon the AAA "jurisdiction to change and reduce clearances which have no connection with or relation to the violation of law stated in the petition and complaint."

Added Contention

Hardy is expected to contend further that "the defendants, because they have devised, proposed and agreed to the arbitration system, and because they desire to maintain and continue that system to avoid other and effective remedies for the restraint of trade and monopoly, they have exercised and will continue to exercise their control of the supply of pictures to enforce compliance by independent non-defendant exhibitors with awards which are adverse to non-defendant exhibitors, whether or not those exhibitors become parties to or submit to the arbitration proceedings."

Moreover, the motion is expected to state, "the decree does not provide any lawful rule or standard of decision for the arbitrator, but necessitates the application by him of his own personal, arbitrary and capricious opinion and will in making an award."

"Frenchman's Creek"

(Continued from page 1)

conceived. As the lady with an urge, she out-distances the rest of the cast by a seven-league boot or so. As the manly one who recognizes both a lady and an urge, Arturo de Cordova cuts a dashing and romantic figure and makes understandable why Miss Fontaine almost succumbs to the salt, the wind, the spray, etc. But not quite.

IN fact, there is considerable of that urge business around. From the outset, Miss Fontaine, whose fictional name is as fancy as Dona St. Columb, is hankering for the romance which her husband, Harry, does not provide. When she leaves London for their Cornish home and shortly thereafter meets de Cordova, a Robin-Hood type of high seas marauder, she becomes quite a willing wanderer from hearth, home and children. Where Harry is blundering and boorish, Jean Benoit Aubrey —that's de Cordova—is courtly, dashing, romantic. In short, he's French.

And so it is, they fall madly in love. The heroine accompanies her pirate-hero on an expedition. She protects his interests, meaning his safety, when the squires of the county band together to remove him from the scene. She kills Lord Rockingham—that's Basil Rathbone—when he tries to throttle her. She arranges her hero's escape. Finally, decision time arrives. It finds her resisting piracy, high seas and the wind through the sails to stand by the obligation which her children represent. In-between, she has indulged in much gallivanting around the countryside, but the dialogue makes it crystal-clear she has done nothing of which she need be ashamed.

"Frenchman's Creek" is a decided showpiece, a sort of concerto on celluloid. Its production investiture is magnificent. Its photography, at the hands of George Barnes, is arresting. Its settings are big. Its seascapes and its shipscapes—to coin a word—are lovely in sweep and composition. Nothing was spared to fill the eyes, and keep them that way.

Dramatically, the enterprise doesn't match. Those doublets, wigs and trappings which are 17th century get in the way of story and characters, a common result in this type of idyllized romantic drama. What comedy is around lumbers and creaks and the attraction would move faster toward its goal in less footage. Incidents are contrived for convenience, not for believability.

NEVERTHELESS, it's a show. In point of scale, it's a big show. In point of offering a different kind of romance, lacking competition at this juncture, there is advantage. If make-believe of a far-off day in a tapestry of long, long ago and a pirate yarn are big box-office, this attraction, which makes its bow at the Rivoli, New York Wednesday morning, is it. Other principals in the cast are Ralph Forbes, Nigel Bruce and Cecil Kellaway.

Running time, 110 minutes. "A."* Release date not set.

RED KANN

*"A" denotes adult classification.

First 'Lo!' Appears

The first edition of *Lo!*, Loew's new home office employee magazine, appeared yesterday. Circulation is presently limited to home office personnel and employees in service. The staff of the magazine, which will be issued on the first and 15th of every month, includes Oscar A. Dood, supervising editor; Mike Simmons, managing editor; Ernest Emerling, art editor; Si Seadler, feature editor; Eddie Dowden, news editor, and Howard Cagle, staff photographer.

U. S. Companies Soon in Europe

(Continued from page 1)

tributors and the time when they are fully prepared to operate in the liberated areas on their own.

The plan, it is understood, contemplates the selection of an all-industry representative to whom the OWI would turn over operation. The individual to be selected, presumably from the ranks of the distributors, would be empowered to act for all companies. It is expected that this period would be for six to eight weeks, at the end of which all the companies could start on their own.

Since the OWI would approve of this representative, as would the industry, the companies would secure needed transportation priorities, presumably made available by military authorities.

Industry's Willingness

In the meantime, Riskin said, the industry "willing and anxious to give us additional prints, for overseas showings" has agreed to raise the number of prints from eight to 20 on 40 Hollywood features with superimposed titles in Italian, while the number of French versions is still subject to negotiation.

The OWI has an organization ready to go into all countries, including the Balkans, Riskin said, with the Russians presumably to participate in a predetermined plan.

The theatre situation in France is comparatively good, Riskin stated, on the basis of preliminary reports. "The overall picture is satisfactory there," he said. Southern France, he pointed out, is relatively undamaged. Return of private operation in France and Italy, he said, may come simultaneously, but the possibility exists that in France it may come sooner because that country may revert to a peace zone sooner than embattled Italy.

Mexicans Lay Down Law on US Dubbing

(Continued from page 1)

dubbed in English must be accepted; that the Spanish versions of the American films be done by Mexican adaptators and that their dialogue direction and acting be done by Mexicans as well; that in all cases of dubbing the Americans must supply their own film.

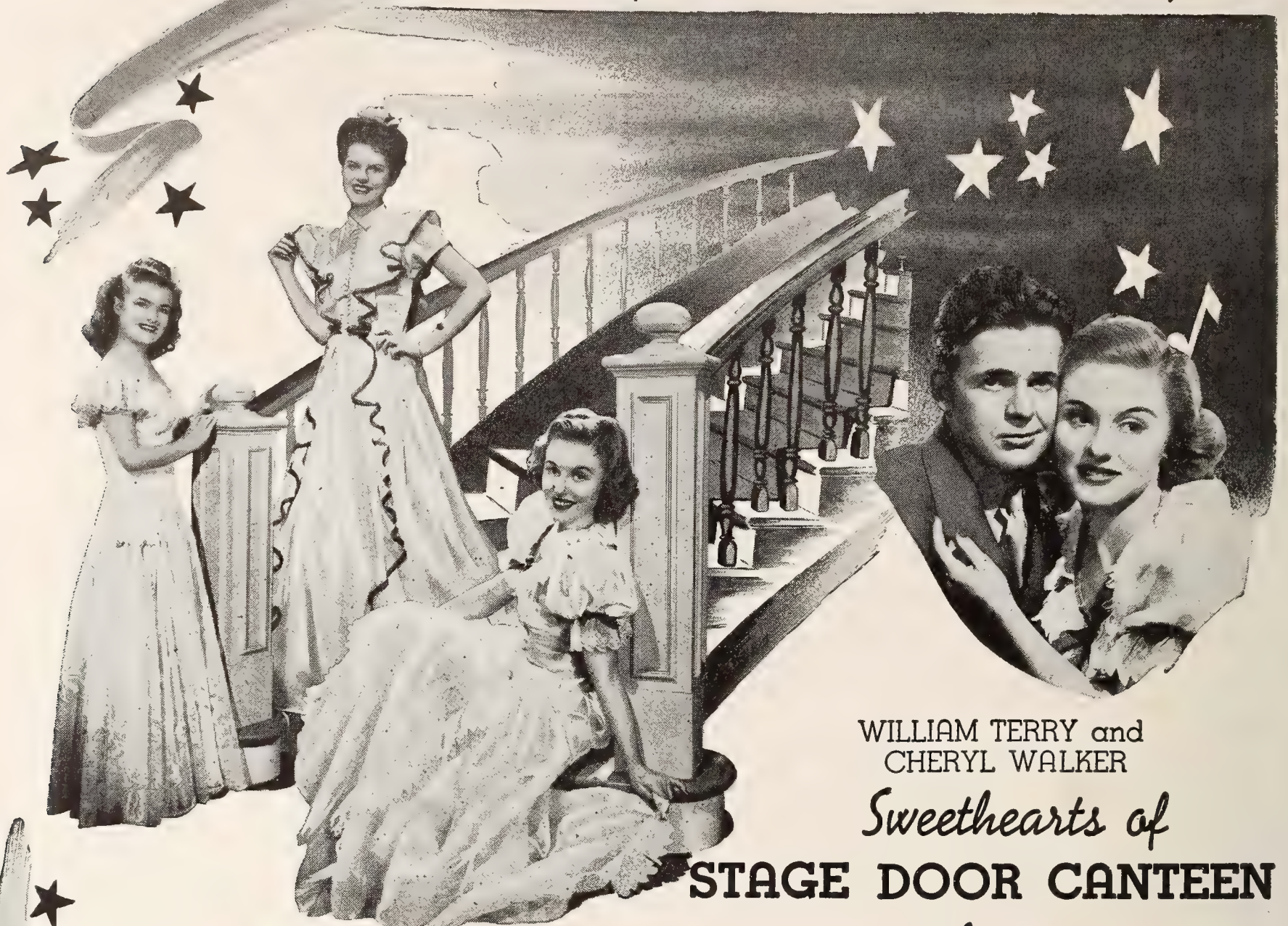
In consideration of these services by the Mexican industry the U. S. Coordinator's Office must allow Mexico 10,000,000 more feet of raw stock which it needs for the rest of this year.

Cantor Back on Air

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19.—Eddie Cantor will return to weekly broadcasts on Wednesday, Sept. 27, with his "Time to Smile" program, over NBC. Carole Landis will be a guest on the opening program.

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STAGE DOOR CANTEEN

together again
in

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JACKIE MORAN • CHARLES ARNT • FRANK JENKS
WILLIAM SHIRLEY

JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director
Original Story by Maurice Clark • Olive Cooper
Screenplay by Olive Cooper

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 57 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1944 TEN CENTS

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS NOT FREEDOM

Big Postwar Expansion by Independents

PRC, Sherman, Others To Enlarge Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 20. — Postwar studio and other improvement plans of independent and specialized film companies here finds them set to keep pace with the larger producers in expanding studio and other facilities.

Typical is PRC Pictures, which occupies the old Fine Arts Studio at Santa Monica Boulevard and North Fuller Ave., which plans a $400,000 expansion, according to president Leon Fromkess. The seven stages in use now will be augmented by two new ones, each 90 by 130 feet. Ground area will be made available by demolishing old buildings and bungalows which now dot the lot. Likewise projected are a new administration building, a commissary and a property room. If required,

(*Continued on page 6*)

New Jersey Allied Picks Committees

Allied of New Jersey's board of directors, in semi-annual meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday, selected the following committees to serve during 1945: Executive, Harry H. Lowenstein, chairman; Louis Gold, Ralph Wilkins, Dave Mate, Dave Snapper, Edward Lachman, Maurice Spewak; finance, Snapper, chairman; Lachman, Mrs. Helen Hildinger, Wilkins, Sidney Seligman; membership committee. Northern New Jersey, Nate

(*Continued on page 6*)

Quebec Exhibitors Seek Conciliation

MONTREAL, Sept. 20.—Finding that exhibitors who operate both independent and circuit houses are without complete representation on Canada's Regional Conciliation Boards, the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, in annual meeting here today, heard a proposal for altering the board's

(*Continued on page 6*)

Map Plan For Sixth Drive

The industry's Sixth War Loan campaign committee plans to give the exhibitor—"the infantryman of the bond war"—the ammunition with which to conduct a successful campaign, John Hertz, Jr., campaign publicity director, explained at a meeting of industry advertising, publicity and exploitation heads here yesterday. The group joined with other branches of the industry in "pledging 100 per cent cooperation" in the campaign.

Following a general campaign discussion, and a talk from a Treasury Department representative, those at the meeting requested a further session today when they will present the ideas developed from a more leisurely study of the ground to be covered.

Guy Lemmon of the Advertising Council, assigned to address the group by Ted R. Gamble, national War Finance Director, outlined the Treasury's approach to the Sixth War Loan,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Burtnett Quits L.A. Office of Censorship

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 20.—Gerald B. Burnett, senior censor here of the board of review, U. S. Office of Censorship, has resigned to go to the South Pacific Oct. 4 as correspondent for the *Honolulu Advertiser* and other newspapers, according to an announcement made here today by Watterson R. Rothacker, chairman of the board. No successor has been appointed.

The Los Angeles Board inspects pictures for export and import with regard to wartime considerations.

PCCITO 'Confident' After Berge Report

Seattle, Sept. 20. — Confidence that "abuses practiced in distribution" will be prosecuted vigorously by the Department of Justice was expressed here today by directors of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners following a meeting with Wendell Berge, head of the department's anti-trust division, who outlined the Government's recent New York Federal Court motion for modification of the consent decree. The session with Berge was the principal business at the opening session of the PCCITO board's two-day quarterly meeting.

Rank, Ruggles In Tieup

Wesley Ruggles has completed negotiations with Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., J. Arthur Rank's American organization, to produce pictures in both in Hollywood and in England, according to an announcement made here yesterday by Eagle-Lion. It is Rank's first definite move in his long-held intention to produce in Hollywood.

In conformance with the contract, according to the Eagle-Lion announcement, Ruggles, who thus becomes an integral part of Rank's production plans, will direct and produce

(*Continued on page 6*)

"The Master Race"

[RKO]

Hollywood, Sept. 20

THE stories were legion: Edward A. Golden was lucky with "Hitler's Children." It was a freak attraction. It was the title that got 'em. Somehow or other, the attraction collided with a market peculiarly ready for that kind of subject.

Then, the aftermath: The next one will hit closer to the answer. It will demonstrate if "Doc" was really lucky or if he knows how.

That next one is now at hand. It is "The Master Race" and this is what it shows:

A timeliness as crackling as this afternoon's headlines. A whale of a box-office title. A dramatic story of power and purpose. An array of good performances ranging from excellent to good. Sound writing, competent and intelligent direction and production values well attuned to the war-ravaged Belgian village in which the action unfolds.

The title, of course, requires no explanation. It has been written

(*Continued on page 3*)

WPB Orders Processing Within Quotas

Raw Stock for Fourth Quarter Near Normal

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The War Production Board today amended limitation order L-178 to require laboratories and service organizations to limit their processing of raw stock for the major producers and distributors to the quotas assigned the individual companies by the photographic section.

The Board's action was taken, as outlined to the advisory committee Sept. 8 by Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the section, because third-quarter production of film dropped while military requirements increased, making it undesirable to continue under the former system of permitting laboratories and service organizations to purchase unlimited quantities of 35mm film for use on behalf of the major companies.

Board officials said that about 555,-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Seek Wage Boosts In 3 More Cities

Film exchange service employes' IATSE locals in San Francisco, New Orleans and Buffalo will file with War Manpower Commission offices in their areas for approval of a 10 per cent wage increase which the distributors are willing to grant, bringing to 18 the number of locals which have filed or are preparing to file.

The WMC regional office having jurisdiction over the Seattle service employes has already approved the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rosecan Arbitration Date Is Postponed

Hearing of the clearance complaint of Adolph Rosecan, operator of the Princess Theatre, St. Louis, in the St. Louis tribunal, has been postponed to an undetermined date from Sept. 28, it was learned here yesterday. A new date involves agreement by the complainant, the distributors and intervenors, and thus there is a possibility

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

LEONARD GOLDENSON, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., left New York for Atlanta last night for conferences with WILLIAM K. JENKINS, head of the Lucas & Jenkins Circuit. GOLDENSON was accompanied by LEON NETTER, M. F. GOWTHORPE and WALTER GROSS.

•

FLORENCE SEIDELMAN, daughter of JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, Universal foreign distribution head, was married yesterday to LT. NORMAN BARNETT, son of WILLIAM BARNETT, vice-president of Massce Barnett Co.

•

EARL WINGART, LOU GERARD and IRWIN ZELTNER of 20th Century-Fox home office exploitation department, have returned to New York after completing assignments in the field.

•

HENRY LINET, Universal assistant Eastern advertising head and MARIE SLATE of Universal's publicity-exploitation department, returned yesterday from Providence.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, assistant general sales manager for Warners, reports the complete recovery of his daughter, JANET, who was stricken by polio a month ago.

•

TRACY BARHAM, executive of the Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, associated with Paramount, is a New York visitor.

•

HELEN ALLEN, formerly booker for M-G-M in Atlanta, is now PRIVATE ALLEN of the Marine Women Reserves at Camp Le-Jeune.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant to RODNEY BUSH, exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, left today for Boston.

•

SGT. DAVID GOLDEN, first president of SOPEG, Local 109, is in New York on furlough from Camp Livingston, La.

•

LEO SPITZ and WILLIAM GOETZ will leave Los Angeles tomorrow on the *Superchief* for a 10-day visit to New York.

•

WILLIAM HEINEMAN, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, is in Chicago.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eastern publicity director for International Pictures, has returned from Chicago.

•

P. W. FRANKE, special representative for Republic Pictures, is visiting the Atlanta branch.

•

IRVING DOLLINGER, New Jersey exhibitor, yesterday celebrated his 39th birthday.

•

LEDA BAUER, RKO story editor, has arrived on the Coast from New York for studio conferences.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Sept. 20

WITHOUT specific authorization, direct comment is never permitted to bulwark Department of Justice viewpoint. It is a long-standing policy which explains why that phrase, "a spokesman said" so frequently appears in Washington dispatches to MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

This procedure does not blot out all light, but gives it a varying intensity and makes it possible for the Department to draw a line between opinion, undesignated as to precise source, and official statements which may be issued thereafter.

■

Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney-General in charge of the anti-trust division, illustrated this again during a three-day visit to Los Angeles. His first interview was held at the Biltmore where informality prevailed. Questions were asked, and he answered them. He moved back and forth from quotable to off-the-record comment to the "spokesman said" device.

Evidently, this failed to work out from his point of view because two days later he saw fit to hold another session, at which he issued a written statement introduced by this explanatory sentence: "I should like to make some clarifying statements about the position of the Department of Justice in litigation involving the motion picture industry." That statement was published last Thursday.

■

With a deliberate airiness and a conscious vagueness of how it comes about, what follows is a series of impressions which reflect the attitude and the strategies of the Department in pursuit of its agenda aimed at the head of the majors and others.

The rank-and-filer in Hollywood knows from nothing where the consent decree is concerned. Buying pools, booking combinations, interlocking and operating arrangements between circuits, theatre divorcement—these are fruits foreign to this clime. The men at the top know about them, yet even with them the chief concern is making pictures, not selling them. Selling is what New York's about.

However, when Berge's statement got around to its finale which was, "We intend to strike at illegal monopoly practices of the motion picture industry wherever we find them—in production, distribution and exhibition," interest here quickened.

Here's the impression on that one:

That production was wrapped up with distribution and exhibition only for purposes of making the Department's policy an all-inclusive affair.

That there is no study of the practices of production under way.

That a condition under which there might be a monopolistic control of talent would be onerous; that the Department would have to probe such a condition as a normal part of its functions.

It may be said, however, this is all hypothetical stuff and that Justice knows of no such state of affairs existing at this time.

■

Another impression:

In the first interview, it was indicated—and so reported—Justice expects to rely upon its New York petition for decree changes as its principal move. Therefore, no need for additional suits bearing on alleged monopolies in exhibition would be required. In the second interview, a change entered. For what reason is not known, but the impression then created was suits will be filed at will; that such actions may be brought while the outcome against the five decree signatories impends or regardless of what that outcome may be.

In turn, this created the feeling the Department is appraising the industry through very long-range glasses and that it will not necessarily regard a defeat in one direction as mitigating against a new strike in another.

■

A third, tying to the second:

That one, a few, or even many suits may figure in the Department's plans. There is an aura of the indefinite surrounding immediate steps provided there are any at all, but this need cause no confusion. It cannot be expected that a plaintiff will allow himself to enter the public record with an intention to sue. That would not be properly conventional. More significantly, it would tip his hand.

That much reliance is being read into the New York petition, nevertheless. The Department apparently is keenly interested in whatever precedents in the law will develop from that petition although it is commonly acknowledged final determination eventually will rest with the U. S. Supreme Court.

Nevertheless, the keynote to Department evaluations of the New York angle is emphasized by still another impression Washington may see no need for other suits if theatre dissolution is ordered in this one proceeding. The thought processes here are other theatre interests—not defined, but indicated to be independents—will recondition and reconstitute themselves to the new order and thereby obviate further requirements for extended litigation on their part as well as on the part of the Government.

■

Final impressions:

That the Crescent case is significant because it is "typical" in the eyes of the Department. Publicly, Berge has stated he intends arguing it before the Supreme Court at the Fall term. Not publicly stated, and therefore another impression, is his proposed approach. The feeling is the content of the Government's presentation will convince generally the Department is not horsing around on theatre divorcement and monopoly issues. Inferentially, the suggestion is others, presumably likened to Crescent in Justice's eyes, will get wise.

■

On the record, however, is this:

One newspaper reporter asked the names of the five majors under fire. Paramount, M-G-M and Warners rolled off tongues with ease. Then there was a pause, followed by an interlude of raised eyebrows. Maybe a furrowed brow or so, too. A Government man rode to the rescue with, "Oh yes Twentieth Century-Fox."

But it was William R. Weaver, Hollywood editor of these esteemed publications, who made the rescue complete. He obliged, "There's RKO, also."

George Sees Certain Drop in Taxes

Washington, Sept. 20.—Both individual and corporate taxes will come down after the war, but not as soon as some persons expect, Senator George of Georgia, chairman of the Senate postwar economic policy committee, declared today.

Studies now being made by the committee, which will afford the basis for tax relief, should give first indications as to its extent within six weeks, Senator George said.

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Map Campaign Plans For Sixth Drive

(Continued from page 1)

which is predicated on the possibility of the German war being terminated befor or during the drive. The emphasis, Lemmon explained, would then be on a "beat the Jap" basis, with advertising that would explain how the shifting of troops to the Pacific, meant increased war costs.

A special committee of press book editors of the various companies was formed at yesterday's meeting. This group, under Sumer Singer, will prepare and present "ammunition" for exhibitors in a campaign manual.

Present in addition to those already mentioned were: Mort Blumenstock, Gilbert Golden, S. Barret McCormick, Joe Tisman, Charles Schlaifer, Frank Rosenberg, Laurence Lipskin, Si Seadler, Oscar Doob, Stanley Shuford, Vincent Trotta, Frank Moneyhun, Herb Berg, Glendon Allvine, Al Hirsch, George Gomperts, Jonas Arnold, Ernest Emerling, Bill Dasheff, Ed. Schreiber.

45 At M-G-M Meet, Led by C. K. Stern

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 20.—Forty-five M-G-M home office executives and field representatives will attend the company's two-day meeting of office managers and exploitation men to be held here Sunday and Monday at the Muehlbach Hotel. Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer, and William R. Ferguson, exploitation director, will preside.

The home office will be represented also by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and sales manager; A. E. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations; Arthur Sterling, assistant to Cummings; William Brenner, head of exchange maintenance; Rose Klein, assistant to Sterling; A. Nelson, head of the statistical department; Charles F. Deesen, home office assistant to J. J. Maloney, contract sales manager, and Joel Dezahler, home office assistant to J. E. Flynn, Western sales manager.

Women Lecturers to Publicize 'Race'

The promotional campaign for the Edward A. Golden-RKO "The Master Race," will include a speaking tour by Mrs. Gregor Ziemer and Mrs. Bella Fromm, authorities on Nazi Germany. They will address women's clubs, civic organizations and war worker groups. Radio tie-ups have also been made.

Terry Turner, RKO's exploitation chief, is in charge of the tours. Mrs. Ziemer will begin her tour on Sept. 25 in Texas and Mrs. Fromm will start from Boston on the same date, under the auspices of the Yankee Network and New England newspapers.

Town Honors Budd

Ralph W. Budd, personnel director for Warners in New York, was honored last night at a testimonial dinner given him by the township government and the defense council of Wyckoff, N. J., in recognition of 18 years of service to the community where he held the office of mayor as well as other local governmental posts.

"The Master Race"

(Continued from page 1)

about and denounced in the democratic press of the world. Now that the walls of the German fortress are crumbling, the master race which built them is heading for its final toboggan. Breathlessly, the non-Axis world is watching.

Presumably drawing upon published accounts purporting to divulge the long-range strategy of German militarists, the drama opens with the acknowledged defeat of the Third Reich's armies and the disavowal of Hitler by the general staff since his usefulness has ended. It reveals George Coulouris, as Colonel Von Beck, instructing brother officers and Nazi diplomats to go underground to work for the perpetuation of the master race and its victory through a third world war. The technique is to disunite the Allies through all possible methods and to engender hate and mistrust among all other groups which can serve the objective.

COULOURIS' own assignment takes him to a small Belgian village, already liberated by American forces. He poses as an anti-Nazi, gains refuge by playing on the fears of a widow of a Belgian collaborationist. He plants uncertainties in the brain of the town's miller by insidiously suggesting the occupation forces will keep the mill after it is rebuilt. He connives in the dynamiting of the prison to avoid recognition by German soldiers quartered there, but he also calculates the Allies will be blamed and the minds of the townspeople turned against their liberators. When the widow who has provided him sanctuary reaches the end of her tether and threatens to unmask him, Coulouris murders her. Thereafter, he attempts to fasten the dynamiting on his bewildered dupe. But once a German prisoner recognizes him, the end is in sight. Tried as a spy, Coulouris is executed by a firing squad.

That is the current of the main story stream. It is developed and rounded out by other characters: A village girl who is seduced by a German soldier and bears his child—a shame she bears until the understanding and the tolerance which the new world holds forth removes it from her shoulders. Her husband and the crucible of emotion he must pass through before emerging. The old father in whom the bright flame of freedom never dims. The son who joined the guerilla fighters and returns a man. The fine and understanding American major; his upright associate from the British Army. The Red Army surgeon who heals the townspeople's wounds. The collaborationist's daughter who finds the village turned against her until chaos recedes and eyes turn from the past toward a hopeful future.

These people and their problems are the links joining the dramatic chain. They are presented merely as typical of millions of the little people who stand in the way of the master race and its new blueprint for world conquest. Coulouris, as the protagonist, makes this clear; thus he points up a warning that vigil must be maintained and complacency after the peace not countenanced.

"THE MASTER RACE" is not decorated with marquee names, but neither was "Hitler's Children." Coulouris is best of the cast. Osa Massen, as the young mother, does exceedingly well. Others—all praiseworthy—include Stanley Ridges, Carl Esmond, Nancy Gates, Helen Beverly, Morris Carnovsky, Paul Guilfoyle, Lloyd Bridges, Eric Feldary and Gavin Muir. Herbert J. Biberman, out of New York's Theatre Guild, provided the story, collaborated with Anne Froelick and Rowland Leigh on the intelligent script, and directed. Robert Golden held the producer reins, and held them well.

While frequent expressions of political thinking tend to make the action static and the film editorial, the words in "The Master Race" are good. They are good when they strike for the democracies and they are thought-provoking and on the frightening side when they sound for German militarism. But, if they keep alive a continuing awareness of the pitfalls which appear ahead in the soft days of peace, they will prove purposeful words. Therefore, they will be words well worth having.

Running time, 96 minutes. "G."* In block No. 1, 1944-45; no release date set.

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

Abbott Rites Tomorrow

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 20.—Masonic funeral rites will be held here Friday for Harry Abbott, Jr., who died yesterday after two months' illness. He was a brother and manager of Bud Abbott, film and radio star. Abbott, who had been a stage producer in addition to managing his brother's affairs, also leaves his widow, Elsie, and two sisters.

ASCAP Gets Rights

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has acquired from the U. S. Alien Property Custodian, performing rights to the musical works of Sacem, French performing rights society. The copyrights had been controlled in the U. S. by Elkan-Vogel Co., Philadelphia, since 1931.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 20

TRUSTEES of he Motion Picture Relief Fund have appointed Leon Fromkess, Joseph Santley and Tay Garnett to fill vacancies on the board of directors, Fromkess to represent independent producers, and Stanley, and Garnett to represent directors.

•

Gus Eysell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, will leave for New York on Thursday with a few days stopover in Chicago en route.

•

Pine and Thomas have bought "Cheese It, the Corpse," an original by David Lang, and have assigned the author to produce it.

•

Columbia today gave director Arthur Dreifuss a long term contract.

Gehring in Canada For 20th Convention

W. C. Gehring, Western sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, will be the principal speaker at the 1944-45 two-day sales conference of Canadian managers and salesmen opening here tomorrow, Thursday and Friday, (September 21 and 22). The conferences will be conducted in the Toronto exchange both by Gehring and Canadian district manager Sydney Samson.

Managers attending with their sales forces will include: Harry J. Bailey, Toronto; Edward English, Montreal; Reginald March, St. John; Joseph H. Huber, Winnipeg; Vernon M. Skorey, Calgary; James E. Patterson, Vancouver. The session will highlight sales policy, the handling of road-show productions and other matters bearing on the 1944-54 lineup of pictures recently announced by 20th vice-president Tom Connors.

Seeks Relief from Injunction by WB

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 20.—Olivia de Havilland applied today to the District Court of Appeals for an injunction to restrain Warners from interfering with her employment by other studios. The action is the result of an earlier suit based on the actress' claim that the seven-year Warner contract expired, to which the studio responded with the contention that the time the star was under suspension, did not apply to the life of the pact.

Newsreelers in Crash

Joseph Johnson and Roy Edwards, Universal News cameraman, and Willard Starr, soundman, were on Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's special campaign train which collided with a passenger train near Castle Rock, Wash., this week. They narrowly escaped death when the baggage car, in which the darkroom was housed, was mangled. The trio has just left the car and entered the car behind when the crash occurred. Edwards was slightly injured.


WARNER BR
"MR. SKEFFINGTON"
"JANIE"

. PICTURES



LL STEPPING OUT TOGETHER!

Jack L. Warner,

Big Postwar Expansion by Independents

(Continued from page 1)

production can flow over to a vacant lot PRC owns on Fuller Ave.

Harry Sherman, producer as well as owner of the California Studio, which rents part of its space, states that about $150,000 will be spent in expanding his plant. Chief improvement will a sound stage 200 by 300 feet, which will swell current floor space of 40,000 square feet to about 70,000. Sherman says this will give the California Studio the largest floor area of any independent studio in Hollywood, spread over five stages. Contemplated, too, are new wardrobe buildings and a renovated projection room. Current lighting equipment and cameras are declared to be in satisfactory condition, but additions and replacements will be in line later.

Technicolor's Plans

Technicolor has acquired from M-G-M a site opposite its plant at 6311 Romaine St. and will erect, as soon as materials can be obtained, a new plant to accommodate increased demands upon capacity and to incorporate many improvements, mechanical and technical, devised since the start of the war. Improvements have been delayed in application due to war shortages and pre-emption of Technicolor resources and technicians by the armed services. Among them are mechanisms for use of the new monopak method of color photography, destined in time to do away with need of the present color camera. Expansion in the 16 mm. field is also provided in plans for the new plant.

Lantz' Application Filed

Walter Lantz, releasing his "Cartunes" through Universal, is awaiting priorities, already applied for, on materials for a new building to adjoin present quarters near Universal City. His priorities request is based on the large number of training films he is producing for the Armed Forces. His intention is to use the new building for training films, while their production continues to be required, and later to convert it into his main plant for entertainment cartoons. Recently, he said he was contemplating entering the commercial field as well.

K-MTA Convention Set

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 20.—The Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association will hold its annual convention here Oct. 3-4 at the Hotel Muehlbach.

States Rights and Foreign Territories for Sale!
THE GREATEST MONEY-MAKER OF THEM ALL!
"TEN NIGHTS IN A BAR ROOM"
The Picture that Will Live Forever!
Featuring
WILLIAM FARNUM and TOM SANTSCHI
Superb RCA Recording! All-Talking! Not a Dubbed Version! New Prints! New Accessories! New Everything!
Sack Amusement Enterprises
Owners of Negative and World Rights
Film Exchange Building Dallas, Texas

WPB Orders Processing Within Quotas

(Continued from page 1)

000,000 linear feet of 35mm film will be available in the fourth quarter of this year, at least 231,000,000 feet of which are needed for war purposes, leaving approximately 324,000,000 feet for the picture and newsreel producers. This is approximately the amount normally distributed under the L-178 schedules and it is not expected that any of the companies will encounter difficulties in maintaining operations during the next three months.

Equal Division Assured

Assurance was given that should any additional film be made available for civilian use, as a result of the cessation of hostilities in Europe during the coming quarter, it will be distributed equitably among the companies.

Small (Class C) producers, who account for less than one per cent of the total usage of raw stock, will not be affected by the amended order but some modification of operations may have to be made by the large users.

Outlining the situation in detail, the board explained: "Military requirements for 35mm film for use in gunnery training classes, for combat photography, and for other important purposes have doubled as compared with requirements a year ago. As the Allied armies advance, increasing quantities of this type of film are needed by the Army, Navy, and other Government agencies for rehabilitation, educational and entertainment purposes in the liberated areas.

Dip in Film Production

"The problem of keeping pace with the present upswing in military requirements for film, necessitating today's action, is complicated by a seasonal decline in manpower and a corresponding dip in film production, WPB said. A further complicating factor is that some of the film production equipment, used at top capacity for a long time, is now in need of cleaning and repair and is out of production temporarily.

"The increased military demands and film supply therefore cannot be met by increased production at the present time. Neither can they be met by withdrawals from inventories of raw film stock, since reserves are low. Fulfillment of military requirements can be assured only if motion picture film allocation is placed on a firm basis."

Quebec Exhibitors Seek Conciliation

(Continued from page 1)

definition of an independent exhibitor.

Instead of defining an independent as "one who operates one or more theatres, none of which is affiliated with any major circuit," the plan advanced calls for the conciliators to define him as "one who operates one or more theatres, *any* of which is not affiliated with any major circuit." It was pointed out that circuit delegates represent only those of independent owners which have circuit connections.

At a QATI dinner tonight, Charles Francis Coe of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, spoke on "Films and the Future," pointing out that "the screen will be the greatest instrumentality in promoting the new concept of time, space and geography which will follow the establishment of world peace." Coe's thesis was based on the fact that, during the war, the Armed Forces and civilians alike have discovered in motion pictures the best and easiest method of learning. "Only a free screen can serve a free people," he said.

"To fulfill its best purposes," Coe added, "the screen must attract multitudes to its theatres. In times of emergency, these multitudes will eagerly accept documentary pictures, pleas for aid, drives for a common cause. But remove the emergency and with it goes both interest in and acceptance of these emergency offerings. We must guard against this calamity," he declared.

Weiss' Son Killed

HARTFORD, Sept. 20.—Samuel Weiss, operator of theatres in Avon and Stamford, has been notified by the War Department of the death in France of his son, Lt. Leon Weiss.

New Jersey Allied Picks Committees

(Continued from page 1)

Lachman, Maurice Parks, James Gravany; Southern New Jersey, Si Meyers, Roscoe Faunce, Frances Fineman.

Also: entertainment, Irving Dollinger, chairman; Dr. Henry Brown, Lewis Martin, George Gold, Harry Hecht, Sam Frank; welfare, Lachman, chairman; M. Gogelson; public relations, Leo Newberry, chairman; Gold, Dollinger, Mrs. Hildinger, Meyers; business relations, Jack Unger, chairman; S. Hochberg, Frank Henry, Martin; Eastern regional directors: finance, Snapper, business relations, Newberry, Ralph Wilkins; public relations, Gold Meyers; co-chairman, South Jersey unit: Mrs. Hildinger, Meyers.

Harry H. Lowenstein, president, presided at yesterday's meeting. The New Jersey Allied Caravan will meet at the Newark Athletic Club, Newark, tomorrow morning.

'Streets' Is M-G-M's 4th Legitimate Show

With the opening of "The Streets Are Guarded," to be produced by John C. Wilson, M-G-M will have four productions on the Broadway stage. "Bloomer Girl," which opened recently in Philadelphia, is due at the Shubert Theatre Oct. 5.

"Soldier's Wife," written by Rose Franken and produced by William Moloney, will open here Oct. 4, following a trial run in Wilmington. The cast is headed by Martha Scott, film player, and Myron McCormick. "Violet" is scheduled to open Oct. 23.

Rank, Ruggles In Tieup

(Continued from page 1)

a series of high budget films, it was said. To augment his production organization, Ruggles intends opening his own offices in Hollywood and London and will make arrangements to exchange talent. Ruggles arrived in New York from London late last week, ostensibly to line up talent, it is learned.

While developments on Ruggles' first picture for Eagle-Lion have not progressed to the point of announcing title, cast, or the announcement continued, Ruggles stated it will be made in London as soon as studio space, now at a premium, becomes available.

Although Rank has completed a distribution deal for a number of his pictures with United Artists in the Western Hemisphere, the distribution arrangements for Ruggles' product have not been completed.

Ronald Neame Here On Rank Mission

Ronald Neame, British photographer, will leave here for Hollywood Saturday to study photography methods for J. Arthur Rank's production units. Neame arrived here from London last week. He will arrange to acquire new equipment for Rank as soon as it becomes available, and will also seek to arrange for the interchange of camera crews for location shots between Hollywood and Rank units in England. Neame intends to make his headquarters at 20th Century-Fox studios.

Seek Wage Boosts In 3 More Cities

(Continued from page 1)

10 per cent increase and the distributors and the IATSE have taken an appeal to the WMC Chicago office, which refused to grant the 10 per cent. Rulings are awaited from other WMC regional offices where petitions have been filed jointly by the IATSE and the distributors.

Exchange cities where locals have previously indicated intentions to file or have filed include, besides the above mentioned, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Denver, Los Angeles, Boston, Charlotte, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, Detroit, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New Haven and Dallas. Involved are film shippers, inspectors and poster clerks.

Rosecan Arbitration Date is Postponed

(Continued from page 1)

that the hearing might not take place for some time.

Harry Arthur's St. Louis Amusement Co. theatres were named as interested parties in Rosecan's complaint and, as a result, Russell Hardy, of counsel for Arthur, has signified his intention of filing a motion in New York Federal District Court to vacate the consent decree or to include therein an express exception with regard to theatres operated by Arthur. An injunction suit in the St. Louis Federal District Court to estop the arbitration tribunal in that city from proceeding with the Rosecan case may follow the New York motion.

'SYWA' More than Doubles Average In 4th Frisco Week

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—Grosses running from good to excellent continue to be the rule among first-runs here. Holdovers show little slackening and the new bills are hitting high. "Since You Went Away" is headed for $24,000 at the United Artists, where the average is $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 19-21:

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $15,000).

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $11,000).

"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $27,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (76c-85c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $25,000).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Port of 40 Thieves" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $28,000).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"Three Little Sisters" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $20,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Moveover from Fox. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Moveover after four weeks at Fox. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000).

$32,000 'Wilson' Start in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Sept. 20.—"Wilson," at advanced prices at RKO's Palace, and "Seventh Cross," at Loew's State, vied for popular favor here. "Wilson," with a $1.25 premiere and a group of 20th-Fox stars, is drawing $32,000 on the week. "Seventh Cross" will do a minimum $23,000, which is big at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 20:

"Days of Glory" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,500).

"In Society" (Univ.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,100).

"Step Lively" (RKO)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200).

"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,267) (45c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Stage: Stan Kenton Band, Belita and Maurice St. Claire. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $25,400).

"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,000).

Heads Exchange Union

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 20. — Tony Loftus of the Clark Film Exchange has been elected president of the Film Exchange Employees' Union, here, succeeding John Wagman of Warners exchange who has been named business agent to replace Buddy Bache of M-G-M.

Review

"My Pal Wolf"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Sept. 20

SET this one apart on your list of films-to-come as a 'sleeper,' and give it running room at a time when entertainment counts. Due to lack of names for the lights, a lot of selling would be required to make it spin the turnstiles, but it can be depended upon to compensate and mollify fully the customers attracted by a top picture that gets them in but doesn't give them their money's worth. And it could prosper, on its own, in a run long enough for the people who see it to tell others to do likewise.

The picture concerns a little girl and big dog. The girl's wealthy parents put her in charge of a governess who makes her give up to the army a trained dog which she has befriended. The dog escapes from the army and returns to the little girl, who goes with him to Washington and pleads with the Secretary of War to allow her to keep the animal. On this seemingly slight thread is strung a wholesome sequence of plain events to warm the cookies of any heart that isn't past warming.

Sharyn Moffett portrays the little girl superbly and the cast includes Jill Esmond, Una O'Connor, George Cleveland, Charles Arnt, Claire Charleton, Leonia Mariole, Bruce Edwards, Edward Fielding and Grey Shadow, a dog with personality and a world of training. Credit for a fine little picture goes to producer Adrian Scott, director Alfred Werker and the three writers, Lillie Hayward, Leonard Praskins and John Paxton, who wrote the script from an original by Frederick Hazlitt Brennan.

Running time, 76 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Denver Gives 'Wilson' A $26,625 Welcome

DENVER, Sept. 20.—"Wilson," at the Denver and Esquire theatres, was tops in dollars this week, with the Denver showing a gross of $21,000. The Paramount was next, with $14,880 expected from "Atlantic City," while the Denham reported $11,005 for "Double Indemnity."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 18-21:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
ALADDIN — (1,400) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $9,240. (Average: $5,600).

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $6,240. (Average: $3,900).

"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,005. (Average: $9,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
DENVER — (2,600) (76c-$1.12) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE — (740) (76c-$1.12) 7 days. Gross: $5,625. (Average: $4,500).

"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
"Block Busters" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (35c-46c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $14,880. (Average: $9,300).

"Now Voyager" (WB)
"All Thru the Night" (WB)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, return. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $5,000).

Legion Classifies Eleven New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: A-1, "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," Paramount; "The Singing Sheriff," Universal; "West of the Rio Grande," Monogram; Class A-2, "Dark Mountain," Paramount; "In the Meantime, Darling," 20th Century-Fox; "Leave It to the Irish," Monogram; "Marriage Is a Private Affair," M-G-M, and "Shadows in the Night," Columbia; Class B, "The Doughgirls," Warners; "Frenchman's Creek," Paramount, and "Storm Over Lisbon," Republic.

'Conspirators' Showing

Warners' "The Conspirators," starring Hedy Lamarr and Paul Henreid, will be trade-shown on Oct. 16. The film will be released Oct. 31.

'Wilson' in 1st Week Is Pittsburgh High

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 20.—The Pittsburgh premiere of "Wilson" took place at the J. P. Harris Friday with a sell-out. The picture is expected to gross at least $25,000, having played to record audiences steadily since the opening. "In Society" opened this week at the Fulton, drawing the usual number of young fans.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 18-22:

"In Society" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
J. P. HARRIS—(2,200) (76c matinee, $1.10 evening) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,700).

"Janie" (WB)
RITZ — (1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Moveover from Warner. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000).

"Secret Command" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,400).

"The Centerville Ghost" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Up In Arms" (Goldwyn-RKO)
WARNER — (2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350).

Edwards in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 20.—Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, has arrived here to confer on promotional plans in connection with the personal appearance of Roy Rogers as guest star of the rodeo at the Philadelphia Arena Sept. 23-30.

Background Music



The theme song often "makes" the picture. They call it "background music" and it's mighty important. In the background of your theatre — and just as important — is your projection booth. It is our job, and we like it, to see that no sour notes caused by vital equipment breakdowns spoil the harmony of your house. Get Altec — and keep equipment singing sweetly all the time

ALTEC SERVICE

250 West 57th Street
New York 19, N. Y.

THE SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY



M-G-M's ANNIVERSARY PARADE OF SHOWMANSHIP MARCHES ON!

(With 24-sheets flying! Below, for instance)

KING VIDOR'S Production of M-G-M'S MIGHTY TECHNICOLOR DRAMA!

AN AMERICAN ROMANCE

Starring

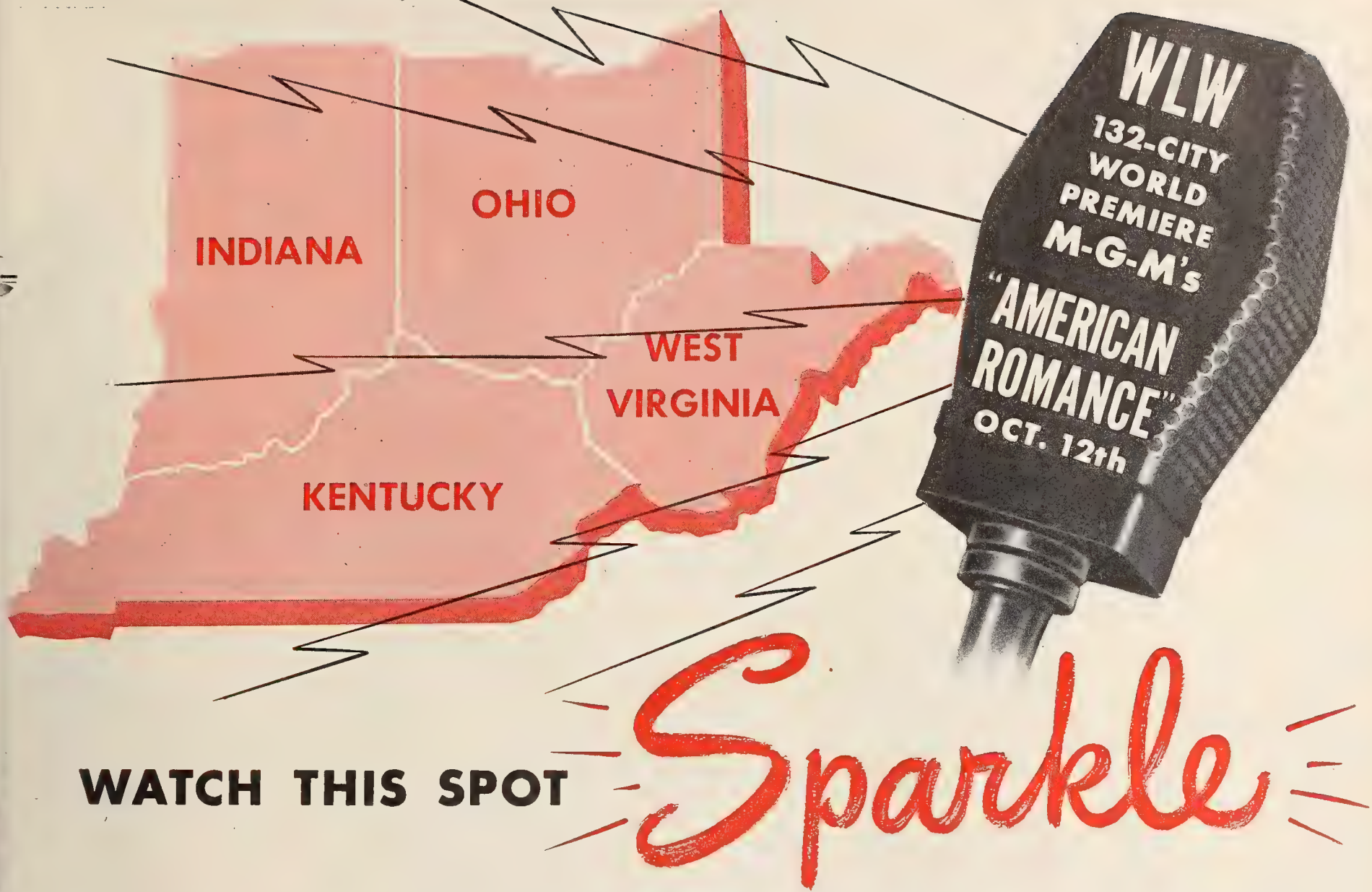
BRIAN DONLEVY

ANN RICHARDS JOHN QUALEN WALTER ABEL HORACE McNALLY

SCREEN PLAY BY HERBERT DALMAS AND WILLIAM LUDWIG

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Produced and Directed by KING VIDOR



WATCH THIS SPOT Sparkle

This is the scene of the greatest promotion campaign ever devoted to any picture! Launching to the nation M-G-M's mighty film. World Premiere October 12th!



(The Facts)

1. WLW, famed merchandise-able station of Cincinnati, covering Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia and Kentucky will spearhead the 132-city World Premiere of M-G-M's "An American Romance."
2. Spot announcements start 4 weeks in advance, building into larger and larger radio time, up to and after the openings.
3. Newspaper ads start 3 weeks in advance in newspapers in the Premiere territory.
4. Posting of all kinds includes: 24-sheets, street-car cards, American Express truck posters, taxi tire covers, etc.
5. Intensive exploitation includes: special trailers, appearances of cast personalities, premiere parades, lobby displays, etc. Entire promotion starts with Inaugural Banquet and Preview in Cincinnati.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE A GREAT SHOWMAN TO BE A LEADER FOR TWENTY YEARS!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Aug. 26	SWING IN THE SADDLE Jane Frazee "Red River" Dave Slim Summerville O	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	LEAVE IT TO THE IRISH James Dunn 61 mins. (325) UTAH KID Hoot Gibson O	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)			(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases)			JANIE Joyce Reynolds Robert Hutton Edward Arnold D—106 mins. (401) (1944-'45)
Sept. 2	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—72 mins. (5002)		OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)		RIDE, RANGER, RIDE (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3306)		TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT Phil Baker Marjorie Massow M—70 mins. (501)	SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Shirley Temple Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Monty Wooley P—171 mins.	GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins. (9005)	CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—(6201) (1944-'45) EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C—74 mins. (5025)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)		SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M— 76 mins. (509) (1944-45)		SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	WING AND A PRAYER Don Ameche Dana Andrews D—97 mins. (502)		MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (9022) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D—61 mins. (5033)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501)	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)			THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	
Sept. 23	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502)	SHADOWS OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan D—(1944-'45)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—58 mins. (1944-'45)	STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434) MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases) SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503)		PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—69 mins. (9019) (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—(1944-'45) (5026)	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504) WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O	(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)	CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314) CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) (1944-'45)	MADEMOISELLE FIFI Simone Simon Kurt Kreuger C—69 mins. (433) HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505) DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (1944-'45)	
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—(1944-'45)	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger D—(1944-'45)	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402)	BLUEBEARD John Carradine Jean Parker Nils Asther D—(1944-'45)	STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Eric Von Stroheim D—86 mins. (323)				THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030) (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(404) (1944-'45)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—(1944-'45) (6021)	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)		NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403)			(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins.		BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Kirby Grant M—70 mins.	
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—(1944-'45)	MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)		OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404)	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45)		NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C	(Third Block) (1944-'45) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506)		THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff D—86 mins.	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins.
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—(1944-'45)	NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—80 mins. (508)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Marjorie Rambeau D LAW OF THE VALLEY Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O	DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)	I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—(1944-'45)		TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O	IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507)			
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks Jeanne Bates D EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller William Wright C						THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen D	IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—(508)		BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez M	

(Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:)

'Wilson' Sets Pace In Philadelphia; 'Lace' Opens High

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 20.—With the new season in full swing, all new openings got off to a big start this week at the expense of holdovers and second runs, except for "Wilson," which points to $50,000 for its dual showing at advanced prices at the Earle and Aldine. Of the new openings "Arsenic and Old Lace" leads, bringing $35,300 to the Mastbaum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 20-22:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE — (900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,300. (Average: $14,600).

"The Story of Dr. Wassell" (Para.)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Janie" (WB)
BOYD — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $18,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
EARLE — (3,000) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $29,700. (Average: $27,600).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,200. (Average: $20,500).

"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,600).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,800).

"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $35,300. (Average: $22,500).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-95c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000).

"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
STANTON—(1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,400).

Providence in Storm Gives 'Storm' $17,000

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 20. — Although theatres were officially closed at 4 p.m. last Thursday because of the impending hurricane, downtown houses, most of them playing holdovers, did fairly good business. The leader was Loew's State, which grossed $17,000 with "Summer Storm," opening on hurricane day.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 22:

"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Mademoiselle Fifi" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE — (2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,800).

"And the Angels Sing" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Plays Cupid" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $10,500).

"Summer Storm" (UA)
"Underground Guerillas" (British)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,700).

"Janie" (WB)
"Boogie-Woogie Dream" (Hol. Prod.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $12,100).

"Silent Sheriff" (Univ.)
FAY'S—(1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Miriam Burroughs, Johnny Cahill, Brent & Sylvia, Stanley Burns, Ray Pike, Jr., Castle & Co. Gross: $7,100. (Average: $6,500).

"In Society" (Univ.)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 4th week. (Held over second week after two weeks at Majestic). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000).

"Block Busters" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (44c-60c) 3 days. On stage: Tommy Tucker's Orchestra, Cy Reeves, Rochelle & Beebe. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,900).

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



CAMERAS START ROLLING THIS WEEK ON PARAMOUNT'S SUPER SCREEN PRODUCTION OF RADIO'S FAMOUS LAUGH PROGRAM, "DUFFY'S TAVERN." ABOVE ARE ED GARDNER, THE "ARCHIE", AND CHARLEY CANTOR, THE "FINEGAN" OF THE AIRWAVES, WHO'LL BE SURROUNDED IN FILM BY AN IMPOSING CAST OF GUEST STARS SURPASSING "STAR SPANGLED RHYTHM" OR ANY PICTURE OF ITS KIND! ALREADY SET ARE BING CROSBY..BOB HOPE..DOROTHY LAMOUR..BETTY HUTTON..RAY MILLAND VICTOR MOORE..AND CONCERT VIOLINST YEHUDI MENUHIN, WITH MORE TOP-FLIGHT PERFORMERS TO BE ADDED.

'Way' at $16,800 Still Tops Toronto

TORONTO, Sept. 20. — "Going My Way" continued its merry way at Shea's Theatre with $16,800 sighted for the third week, while "The Seventh Cross" at Loew's Theatre pointed to $13,200. Second week of "Home in Indiana" at the Imperial looked like $10,300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 21:

"Half Way to Heaven" (Para. reissue)
"North West Mounted" (Para. reissue)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Home in Indiana" (20th-Fox)
IMPERIAL — (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $12,800).

"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $11,200).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $12,800).

"Take It Big" (Para.)
"Buffalo Bill" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,400).

"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
"Alergic to Love" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $9,800).

'Wilson' Exception in Bad Baltimore Week

BALTIMORE, Sept. 20. — Business is hardly what it should be in first-run houses here and the reason is probably that they are offering holdovers and one "revival" for their major film fare. An outstanding exception is the newcomer, "Wilson," which, at advanced prices, is scoring $26,000 at the New Theatre with only 1,581 seats.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 21:

"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (76c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average at regular prices: $10,000).

"Janie" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,000).

"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (35c-44c-55c-64c) 7 days. Stage show: Jackie Green, Frank Gaby & Co., Pat & Sylvia, Carr Bros., Bobby Long. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,500).

"Man from Frisco" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).

Plaque to Quigley For WAC Efforts

Martin Quigley, chairman of the War Activities Committee trade press division since its inception, now resigned, received a specially struck plaque yesterday as a tribute to his efforts. Presentation was made at the regular weekly WAC staff luncheon here by George J. Schaefer, chairman.

In making the presentation, Schaefer, in addition to lauding the former WAC trade press head for his work, praised the activities of the entire division, whose "steadfastness and inspirational aid was an indispensable factor in all campaigns."

Jack Alicoate has succeeded Quigley as chairman, with Charles "Chick" Lewis vice-chairman.

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VOL. 56. NO. 59 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1944 TEN CENTS

COPY REMOVED

Foreign Films For 1,500 U. S. Houses

Reisman Sees Postwar Rise from 100 Houses

By CHARLES RYWECK

From 1,500 to 2,000 American theatres will regularly play the best output of foreign studios in the post war period, instead of the approximately 100 houses that exhibited foreign product regularly, Phil Reisman, RKO vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, predicted at the weekend in an interview with MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

In elaborating on a thesis previously enunciated at the recent RKO sales meeting on the necessity for distributing more foreign product here in the post-war period, Reisman declared that if a reciprocal distribution arrangement were to be concluded, it might serve to head off discriminatory legislation against Hollywood films by foreign governments.

Another result of this, Reisman said.

(*Continued on page 4*)

Detroit Delivery Strike Settled

DETROIT, Sept. 24.—Weekend film deliveries to 200 Detroit theatres and some 500 other theatres throughout the state were tied up Friday by a strike of film delivery truck drivers, members of the Teamsters Union, A. F. of L.

A last minute settlement late Friday night of the film delivery truck drivers' strike narrowly averted a weekend that promised to be a filmless one in all of Detroit's and other motion picture theatres in Michigan. It was estimated that in the event the strike

(*Continued on page 4*)

WLB Approves Pact For Buffalo Help

The regional War Labor Board here has approved the joint application of distributors and the IATSE for permission to institute a system of job classifications with minimum and maximum wage scales and a minimum 10 per cent wage increase for the office workers in the Buffalo film exchanges. The same board has previously approved a similar application involving the workers in the Albany film exchanges.

Will Pay Retroactive SPG Wages on Oct. 6

Film companies here are planning to pay, on or about Oct. 6, retroactive wage increases to some 280 home office publicists of the Screen Publicists Guild, as approved recently by the War Labor Board.

Increases, which may run as high as $10 per week for some publicists, are retroactive to May 3, 1943, giving the workers about 17 months of retroactive salary.

SWG Would Extend Rural Exhibition

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 24.—The Screen Writers Guild has endorsed a five-point program geared to the postwar future of Hollywood writers and production. The plan includes a probe of the possibilities of extending film exhibition into the nation's farm districts, formation of a foreign employment exchange, organization of writers in the industrial and educational fields, canvass of members in the Armed Forces for reemployment suggestions, and a call for State Department help in arranging an international film conference.

Hamilton McFadden of Church-in-Films, Inc., told the guild that cultural and educational features will match the total of straight entertainment features in the next three years.

One-Sheet to Spark '6th'

A special advance one sheet and pre-press book bulletins, in addition to the regular mass of campaign material, will be features of the Sixth War Loan, John Hertz, Jr., advertising and publicity chief for the drive, announced over the weekend, following a meeting with industry publicity, advertising and exploitation heads.

A committee of press book editors of all companies was formed with Charles Schlaifer of 20th Century-Fox, chairman, to prepare a worksheet for exhibitors. Schlaifer will work with Sumer Singer, general chief of press book preparation for the campaign.

The special one-sheet will be rushed to theatres to serve as a combination announcement of the campaign and salute to filmgoers for their support of previous war loans.

Following a telegraphic canvass of leading theatre exploitation men, a pre-press book bulletin containing

(*Continued on page 5*)

M-G-M Spotlight on Aid for Small Towns

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 24.—Small-town cooperation and post-war promotional activities by M-G-M highlighted the opening session today of the field exploiteers' meeting being conducted here by William R. Fer-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Films Must be In Television, SaysGoldsmith

'Insurance and Leadership In Exhibition at Stake'

The film industry has a definite stake in the future of television and it must maintain a position in the development of television, in the opinion of Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, chairman of the theatre engineering committee of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

Dr. Goldsmith, in an interview with *Motion Picture Daily* at the weekend, said that the industry must take a position to take advantage of whatever contributions television can make to theatres and to maintain its record of accomplishment and leadership in purveying pictures and sound entertainment.

"The film industry is in the business of producing popular entertain-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Crescent Argument Week of Oct. 16

Cross appeals from the decision rendered May 17, 1943, by Federal Judge Elmer Davies at Nashville, in the Government's anti-trust suit against Crescent Amusement Co., will be argued before the U. S. Supreme Court in Washington during the latter part of the week of Oct. 16, it was learned here yesterday. The appeals reached the high tribunal early last February, but, after considering initial briefs, the court delayed passing on the question of jurisdiction until after arguments could be heard.

The Crescent suit, filed by the Department of Justice in Nashville, Aug.

(*Continued on page 4*)

Schine Testimony Delayed to Oct. 2

Although hearing of the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., recessed for several months, it will be resumed as scheduled in Federal District Court at Buffalo tomorrow. No witnesses will be placed on the stand by the plaintiffs until Monday, Oct. 2, it was learned here. Department of Justice attorneys have informed the court that next week will be taken up with the presentation of documents.

Special Films to Aid U. S. Solve Peaceday Problems

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—A number of shorts dealing with domestic problems that will arise after the defeat of Germany—the inflation threat, changing jobs and the like already have been planned by the domestic motion picture bureau of the Office of War Information and some are in course of production.

The pictures were plotted out following a number of conferences between Taylor M. Mills, associate chief of the bureau, and officials of the various war agencies concerned with various phases of the post-war situation. Mills has been named director of the bureau, succeeding Stanton Griffis, who will go to Hawaii for the Red Cross.

The film on inflation is believed to

(*Continued on page 4*)

Theatres Help This Juvenile Problem

Baltimore, Sept. 24.—While many larger cities view their increasing juvenile problems with bewilderment, the small town of Laurel, near here, locks its adolescent barn-door before it is too late.

Between shows at Laurel theatres, a Lion Club member gives an especially prepared talk, brief and to-the-point. The talks are changed frequently, and the youngsters, awaiting the continuance of the show, appear to listen.

Personal Mention

ABE MONTAGUE, Columbia general sales manager, returned to New York at the weekend following a three-day meeting with district managers in Chicago.

•

HAZEL BLUMENTHAL, secretary to ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, sales head of International Pictures, will be married around Christmas time to MAJOR WILLIAM CHURCHILL of the U. S. Army Air Forces.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO general sales manager, will return here today from Toronto, where he conferred with Canadian division sales manager LEO M. DEVANEY.

•

TOM CONNORS, HAL HORNE, CHARLES SCHLAIFER, RODNEY BUSH and JULES FIELDS of 20th Century-Fox will leave Friday for conferences at the Coast studios.

•

STANLEY C. JACQUES, RKO Cincinnati branch manager, is in the Jewish Hospital there recovering from an operation.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, has returned to New York from a Widwestern and Southern tour.

•

IRVING RAPPER, Warner director, arrived here at the weekend from Hollywood.

•

I. F. DOLID, Warner supervisor of exchanges, returned over the weekend from Pittsburgh.

Para. 'Associates' Are Made Full Producers

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 24.—Henry Ginsberg, Paramount studio production head, announced at the weekend that the company has abolished the "associate producer" designation, effective Oct. 1 after which all screen and advertising billing will read "produced by."

Associate-producers made producers under the change are: Charles Brackett, Danny Dare, John Houseman, Paul Jones, Fred Kohlmar, E. D. Leshin, Seton I. Miller, Kenneth Macgowan, Harry Tugend, Karl Tunberg.

Miner at SMPE Meet

Worthington C. Miner, in charge of program operations at the CBS television studios here, will explain television illumination to members of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Wednesday evening at the first Fall meeting, to be held at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Equity To Meet

Actors' Equity Association will hold its first quarterly meeting of the new season tomorrow afternoon at the Hotel Astor here.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE available information on the progress of the industry plan to designate trade ambassadors to watch over film interests in the more important world capitals is meager, even at this late day in the span of the program. The explanation is that the appointments, or even the consideration of candidates, are of a nature which, prior to the end of the war, do not lend themselves to publicity. However, there is a minimum of off-the-record information also, and this would tend to substantiate the growing impression in many industry quarters that actually very little progress has been made in carrying out the plan, despite the fact that it was approved by the MPPDA board of directors more than six months ago.

If little or no progress is being made in carrying out the program, as appears to be the case, it would seem that steps should be taken immediately to determine what obstacles or handicaps are being encountered and what can be done to overcome them and prevent what may prove to be a fatal delay in the completion of a program of such great potential importance to the industry.

•

Persistent questioning concerning the greatest obstacle to the plan encountered thus far brings forth a considerable amount of unanimity on the scarcity of qualified manpower for the posts. Heretofore, if the industry wanted men for posts as important and strategic as those which it now seeks to fill, it encountered no difficulty in finding them. The war is not the explanation.

The best available information is that the industry proposes to pay a salary of $10,000 or $12,000 per year to its major foreign representatives; less to those sought for assignment to secondary foreign capitals. If this information is accurate, no one need seek further for a solution of the problem of scarcity of qualified manpower. Nor need anyone be hopeful of the quick completion of the program.

As a matter of fact, if that happens to be the industry's assay of the value to it of efficient representation in the world capitals in the immediate critical future, then perhaps the entire proposal might just as well be forgotten. The industry idea would appear to be that the manpower it seeks for its world representation should have approximately the same qualifications, or not as many, as the average manager of a prewar foreign branch office possessed. If that is the case, what was wrong with the prewar system?

• •

Recent studies of listening habits of radio audiences have exploded the long-held belief in that industry that there are fewer listeners during the summer season than during any other. It was revealed that the number of willing, potential listeners during the hot weather months is the equivalent to the potential during any other season of the year. Actual summer "tuners-in" are fewer than at other seasons, but primarily because the summer radio program fare is not as enticing as at other times of the year.

In this, radio might borrow a chapter from film and theatre industry experience. For many years this industry cherished the unchallenged belief that good pictures should not be released in the good old summertime. Accordingly, program fare and production "clucks" of all breeds were all that even the best of theatres, among those which remained open, could obtain during the vacation season. And, accordingly, the customers stayed away from the theatres in large numbers. Then, about 10 years ago, a few distributors risked (they thought) some of their best productions as summer releases. The business they did told its own story and, as a result, the erstwhile belief that summer is no time for release of a good picture is almost a forgotten chapter in industry history today.

• •

Stellar trade paper reporters, many of whom really are detectives at heart, are still baffled by that United Artists official press release of 10 days ago which proclaimed, following a company board meeting, that any and all inter-company difficulties will be settled shortly. Some guessed that it referred to the Charles Chaplin-David O. Selznick litigation. They guessed wrong. After denying that one, company executives kept mum.

Coming Events

Today and Tomorrow—M-G-M field personnel meeting, Hotel Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City.

Sept. 29—Theatre men meet with deputy industrial commissioner of New York state on building code, New York.

Oct. 3—Motion Picture Theatre Association of Ontario meeting, King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

Oct. 3-4—Kansas City Theatre Owners convention, Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 9-11—Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan annual meeting, Detroit.

Oct. 16-20—Annual business conference, Altec Service and Altec Lansing, Hollywood.

Oct. 17—Society of M. P. Engineers' semi-annual banquet, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 17—West Virginia Theatre Owners' meeting, Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Va.

Oct. 17—Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina, annual meeting, Charlotte.

Nov. 10—Motion Picture Associates Sixth War Loan dinner, Hotel Astor, New York.

Nov.-Dec.—Sixth War Loan campaign.

Nov. 14—'Night of Stars,' sponsored by United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Dec. 11-12—Television Broadcasters Asociation meeting, Hotel Commodore, New York.

Gehring, Schlaifer Back from Meetings

W. C. Gehring, Western sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, returned to the home office at the weekend from Toronto where he presided over a two-day sales conference of branch managers and sales personnel of the six Canadian offices of 20th-Fox. Sydney Samson, Canadian district manager, conducted the meetings. Gehring will leave for Indianapolis today, accompanied by E. H. Collins, his assistant. From there he will go to St. Louis and Kansas City where meetings have also been set.

L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager, who has been conducting sales conferences in exchanges in his territory, also returned to the home office at the weekend, accompanied by his assistant, Jack Bloom. Schlaifer visited Boston, Buffalo and Chicago where conferences of branch managers from Albany, New Haven, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit and Milwaukee were held.

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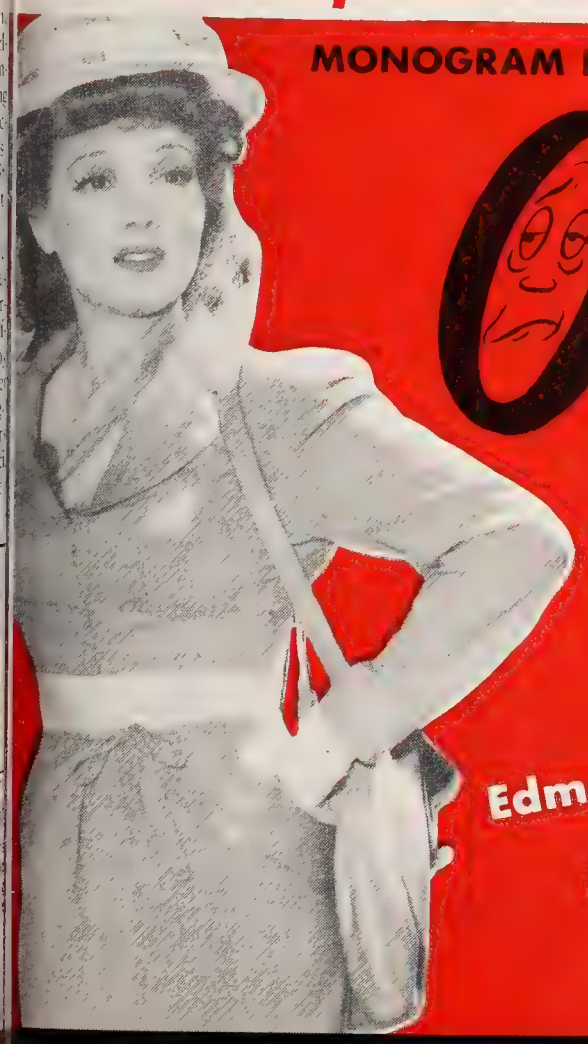
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Directed by WILLIAM BEAUDINE

Screenplay by PAUL GERARD SMITH

Story by MARION ORTH



MONOGRAM PICTURES

M-G-M Spotlight On Aid for Smaller Towns

(Continued from page 1)

guson, M-G-M exploitation director, and field men at the Muehlbach Hotel.

New promotion plans for new pictures were discussed, embracing "Mrs. Parkington," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Ziegfield Follies," "Music for Millions," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "National Velvet," "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and "The Thin Man Goes Home." Also discussed were plans for the world premiere of "Meet Me in St. Louis," in St. Louis.

Tomorrow, Ferguson will talk on plans now in work for the 132-city premiere of "An American Romance," in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia, in a tieup with WLW, Cincinnati.

The M-G-M exploitation head and his field representatives will tomorrow attend an exhibitor luncheon, at which 300 are expected, when William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, will be host.

M-G-M's Future Policy

Before leaving M-G-M's Culver City studios, Rodgers stated that the company is "going all-out and sparing no expense to develop a continued flow of high-grade product" for after V-E Day. He predicted "many prosperous years ahead" for America, although he does not expect them to be "abnormally lush." Rehabilitation of war-devastated countries was seen as a spur to business.

M-G-M's sales of short subjects, according to Rodgers, are approximately 75 per cent as high as those of features, but income from short subjects is off, partly because of the playing time consumed by Government reels. He said more than 400 new theatre accounts, once dormant, have been added by the company, making a total of 14,000 now showing M-G-M's more important films. Rodgers will go from here to the home office in New York and will return to the Coast in December on a combined business and vacation trip.

Speeding Efficiency

Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, also opened his meeting of office managers, traveling auditors and girl "commando-crew" today, the principal topic being to expedite the work of office workers in exchanges by the elimination of unnecessary form-filing.

Attending Ferguson's meeting are E. B. Coleman, Dallas; Irving Waterstreet, St. Louis; Bernard Evens, Kansas City; Ed Gardner, Oklahoma City, and William Prass, Denver.

Attending Stern's meeting, from New York, are Rodgers, Alan F. Cummings, Arthur Sterling, Rose Klein, Arthur Nelson, Charles F. Deesen, and Joel Bezahler. Office managers in attendance include: Hazel Anderson, Omaha; E. Mitchel, Memphis; Eleanor King, Denver; Amy Sinclair, Kansas City; Lila Goodin, San Francisco; Edna Frank, Chicago; Harry Simons, Chicago; Walter Bennin, Milwaukee; F. Armington, Des Moines; Jay Zimmerman, St. Louis; A. Gross, Minneapolis; Mary Ryan, Buffalo; W. Spruce, Dallas; W. Royalty, Oklahoma City; G. Derrick, Salt Lake City; G. Becker, Detroit; Joe Markowitz, Los Angeles. Traveling auditors include T. F. Grady, O. Broughton, P. D. Agnew and Ed Urschel.

Although the office managers' meeting was originally scheduled for two days, it will be continued for a third day.

Industry Must Have a Place In Television: Goldsmith

(Continued from page 1)

ment through pictures and sound," Dr. Goldsmith said, adding that it is obvious that television broadcasting will bring this form of entertainment into the home. He does not believe that television shows will supersede Hollywood's present type of entertainment, but he does believe that television will become an adjunct to film programs in theatres and that theatres cannot afford to be excluded from its use. He pointed out that television can provide theatres with instantaneous pictures of news events and indicated that it can also be used in film promotion. "The film industry must be in a position to make these advantages available to exhibitors," he said.

"If television comes into the home, theatres must be prepared to provide what is required along the same lines but on a larger scale and especially adapted to theatre audiences," Dr. Goldsmith said.

Discussing the report prepared by a television sub-committee of the SMPE, of which he is a member, seeking the allocation of frequencies to the film industry in order to make possible direct pick-ups of television programs from film studios, as well as on-the-spot events, transmitting the programs to theatres, and finally to relay them from city to city, Dr. Goldsmith said that the radio industry does not appear to be hostile to any plans of the film industry for television.

The SMPE report, sponsored by engineers of the film industry, will eventually be placed before the Federal Communications Commission which starts hearings on channel allocations in Washington Thursday.

Blue Web to Give Plans

Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president of the Blue Network, will discuss the network's activities in the television and frequency-modulation fields at a press luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here today.

Special Films Will Aids Peace Problems

(Continued from page 1)

be probably the most important of the series and was prepared after consultation with mobilization director James F. Byrnes, who has highly commended the treatment.

No decision has been made regarding the post-war disposition of the 16-mm. program, but it is likely that Mills will call a meeting of all 16-mm. interests after the fall of Germany with a view to developing some method for that industry to take the work over.

The inter-departmental committee on which representatives of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, Office of Education, War Productoin Board and OWI now serve, will probably be expanded to take in representatives of the Army and Navy, so that the views of the military as well as the civilian agencies can be secured on the bureau's post-war work. At the present time the bureau is cooperating with Lincoln V. Burrows, chief of the WPB photographic section, in the effort to save film and is itself putting out only one short a month instead of the short and two bulletins it has been releasing.

MacFadden to N. Y.

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 24.—Hamilton MacFaden, president of Church-in-Films Corp., will leave here shortly for New York to attend the interdenominational meeting, representing 19 churches, with a view to determining postwar prospects for church use of films. He will arrive there early in October.

Detroit Delivery Strike Settled

(Continued from page 1)

had not been called off, exhibitors losses would have mounted to "seven figures".

Downtown theatres had received their shows before the strike was called and were not affected. Neighborhood houses and others throughout the state served by the local film delivery concerns were faced with the prospect of going through the weekend without a change of program or of closing. All Detroit exchanges were affected.

Ollie Brooks, publicity director of the Butterfield Circuit, said none of its houses had received their new weekend shows at a late hour Friday. Delivery of late newsreel editions to all theatres was held up.

Officials of the Teamsters Union said the strike resulted from grievances which had been accumulating for months. It was climaxed by a dispute Friday between drivers and two local film delivery companies, Cinema Service, Inc., and Exhibitors Service, Inc., following refusal by the regional War Labor Board to approve the companies' applications for wage increases for the drivers. The union also has been insisting that advertising accessories be delivered to theatres separately, instead of with the film shipments, as heretofore.

Goldwyn Buys 'High'

Screen rights to "Earth and High Heaven," by Gwethalyn Graham, have been purchased by Samuel Goldwyn for $100,000, the Goldwyn office here reported. The book, which is being published by Lippincott, will be the Literary Guild selection for October.

Clarence Brown in Radio

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 24.—Clarence Brown, M-G-M director, has joined Melvin G. Sues, radio executive, in a wholesale distributing firm for Zenith Radio in this territory.

Foreign Films For 1,500 U. S. Houses

(Continued from page 1)

would be to stimulate foreign production and the enlarged market would permit foreign producers to put more money into their pictures. "Good pictures, regardless of where they originate, should be shown," he said. "It will be up to the public to approve or disapprove."

There will probably be about seven or eight countries in Europe qualified to make good films. "Theatres should think about converting some individual houses into showing foreign product," RKO's foreign head said. Super-imposed titles or dubbing in English will make the films intelligible to American audiences, he added.

Discusses Adverse Legislation

"We're drawing close to the end of the European war," Reisman stated, and there are indications of certain adverse legislation which we will have to head off. Foreign producers, said Reisman, realize the necessity of studying this market to the same extent as we have done. Non-English pictures will have to depend primarily on action rather than dialogue, if they are not well dubbed, he added.

To hold foreign markets, even Hollywood films will have to be directed more to the special requirements of these markets in the post-war, Reisman asserted. Stressing the profit in exhibiting foreign pictures, he cited the instance of Mexican films which, he said, get more in the U. S. than we gross in Mexico with our films.

RKO is currently distributing "Goyescas," a Spanish film, in order to facilitate distribution of its own product in Spain.

Crescent Argument Week of Oct. 16

(Continued from page 1)

11, 1939, shortly after the start of the main U. S. suit in New York against the distributors and at approximately the same time as the filing of suits against the Schine circuit at Buffalo and the Griffith circuit at Oklahoma City, was the first of the four to be tried. Brought to court in the Summer of 1941 with the five consenting companies eliminated and Universal and Columbia later dismissed, it resulted in a decree from Judge Davies embodying virtually all the relief sought by the Government.

The Crescent defendants were directed to desist from combining with each other and with the distributors "in licensing films for the purpose and effect of maintaining theatre monopolies" and from attempting to coerce owners into selling houses to them. Six affiliated companies were ordered separated; and Tony Sudekum, head of the circuit, and Louis Rosenbaum, a partner, were required to resign as officers of the affiliates. United Artists was enjoined from "continuing in combination" with certain of the defendants "to eliminate independent theatre competition in Rogersville, Tenn., and Athens, Ala."

Quebec's Allied, Ltd. Defers Appeal

MONTREAL, Sept. 24.—The subject of changes in proposals for the Regional Concilliation Boards discussed at the recent meeting of the Quebec Allied Theatrical Industries, Limited, has been deferred pending a meeting between the Ontario exhibitors and a delegation from Quebec Allied, presumable to be held in Toronto. The meeting is scheduled to take place next month.

According to figures released by Eugene Beaulac, secretary of Quebec Allied, 75 percent of 200 exhibitors of Quebec are members of Quebec Allied. Due to the provincial difficulties, settlement of vital trade questions while discussed at length during the recent meeting have been stalled until the Independent Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Ontario has a chance to survey the situation. Meanwhile, the following resolution by Quebec Allied has been adopted: Whereas members of this association are of opinion that taxes affecting the industry have reached a level so high as to affect the future of the industry, and, whereas postwar conditions justify the association's asking for revision of the system of taxation now affecting the industry, and, whereas there is already descrimination against theatre owners in the province as regards admissions and taxation, it is resolved that a special legislation committee be nominated to investigate present conditions and make where necessary recommendations to the Federal, Provincial and Municipal authorities.

Carrington Calls Altec Meet Oct. 16

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 24.—G. L. Carrington, president of Altec Service and Altec Lansing, announces Altec's annual conference will be held in Hollywood this year instead of in the East as previously. It will be held Oct. 16-20.

Carrington disclosed that the meeting will correlate exhibition with production in forthcoming technical advances, and the Altec supervisory organization will be given new information for the instruction of field forces in the servicing and operation of theatre sound equipment.

Carrington is enroute for a visit to Altec's general offices in New York.

Blumenstock Reports Keener Film Interest

Evidence of what is described as an increasingly favorable attitude of education to the film industry is indicated in a report issued by Warner Brothers at the weekend in connection with the educational bureau, under Charles Steinberg, set up six months ago by Mort Blumenstock as part of the latter's Eastern advertising and publicity department.

Blumenstock stated that 27,000 responses have been received from educational leaders, teachers, librarians, clubwomen and college and university students, who received brochures and other material issued by the bureau in connection with current releases.

Noel Dies in France

CHARLOTTE, Sept 24.—Pvt. James S. Noel, formerly with Republic, was reported killed in action in France.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"FRENCHMAN'S CREEK" RINGS UP BIGGEST OPENING IN 27-YEAR HISTORY OF N.Y.RIVOLI AS WORLD PREMIERE TOPS "WASSELL" BY SENSATIONAL 81% AND "BELL TOLLS" BY 62%! "ROMANTIC AS A KISS IN THE DARK" SAYS WALTER WINCHELL OF THE GREAT JOAN FONTAINE-ARTURO DE CORDOVA STARRER PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY MITCHELL LEISEN IN TECHNICOLOR..."CATCH A POSTCHAISE TO RIVOLI IF YOU WANT TO ESCAPE" (TIMES)..."SWASHBUCKLING PAGEANTRY...FONTAINE BEWITCHING" (HERALD TRIB.)..."PLENTY OF ACTION" (NEWS)..."FAST, COLORFUL, BREATHTAKING" (MORN. TELEG.)..."WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY WITH ITS SPECTACULAR BRILLIANCE" (MIRROR).

Smith, Golden to Equipment Meet

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—Allen G. Smith, chief of the War Production Board theatre equipment section, and Nathan Golden, chief of the Department of Commerce motion picture unit, will attend meetings of the 35-mm. Equipment Manufacturers and Dealers, in Chicago, Oct. 6-8, to discuss current and post war problems and restrictions.

Both officials are preparing informational material for the guidance of the industry. Golden will discuss the export situation, now and after the defeat of Germany, while Smith will report on materials and supplies and explain current restrictions on operations and the changes in WPB control orders which are expected to come along in the near future as conditions improve.

Reports to Washington from industries on which the equipment manufacturers depend indicate that the motor situation is gradually easing, except for the small motors for arc contral and similar purposes; small supplies of ball bearings are becoming available from excess stocks, although not from new production; while sound equipment is still very tight because of difficulties in securing transformers, resistors, capacitators and tubes.

The decision to permit Smith to attend the conference was in line with the WPB policy of keeping in close touch with the more important of the industries it is regulating and which has made possible continuous contact with the manufacturers and dealers that enabled Washington to learn of the needs of the theatre sufficiently in advance to prepare for them and avoid the necessity of any houses closing for lack of equipment.

Special One-Sheet to Spark 6th War Loan

(*Continued from page 1*)

their 'best' bond-selling selections, will also be sent to exhibitors.

Those attending the meeting were: Frank Rosenberg and Lawrence Lipskin, Columbia; Hal Horne and George Gomperts, 20th Century-Fox; Mort Blumenstock, Gilbert Golden and Joe Tisman, Warners; Al Hirsch, Herb Berg and Frank Moneyhun, United Artists; S. Barret McCormick, RKO; Si Seadler, M-G-M; Stanley Shuford and Jonas Arnold, Paramount; Glendon Allvine, Public Information Committee; Vincent Trotta, National Screen Service and Bill Dasheff, Walter T. Brown and Ed. Schreiber.

RCA Meeting Concluded

RCA sales representatives for 16mm sound and projection equipment have concluded a series of conferences with home office executives in Camden. Current and postwar distribution plans were discussed.

Warners Aids Flyers

The Warner management has turned over space in its home office to the Women Flyers of America, Inc., for the latter's monthly meetings.

Goldman's Son Killed

BOSTON, Sept. 24.—Harry Goldman, branch manager of PRC here has been notified by the War Department of the death of his son, Newton with the Army Air Forces in Italy.

Production Is Steady; 7 End, 7 Are Started

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 24.—The studios completed seven pictures during the week and started seven more, preserving last week's total of 47 productions in the camera stage. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Sing Me a Song of Texas."

Shooting: "Eadie Was a Lady," "Counterattack," "Song of Tahiti," "Together Again."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Hold High the Torch," "Women's Army," "Thrill of a Romance," "The Clock," "Anchors Aweigh," "Son of Lassie," "Valley of Decision."

Monogram

Finished: "Jade Mask."

Started: "G. I. Honeymoon," with Gale Storm, Peter Cookson, Arlene Judge, Frank Jenks; "Saddle Pals," with Jimmy Wakely, Dennis Moore, Lee White, and Cay Forester.

Shooting: "Saddle Smoke."

Paramount

Shooting: "Salty O'Rourke," "Miss Susie Slagle's."

PRC

Started: "Strange Illusion," with Jimmy Lydon, Sally Eilers, Warren William, Ludwig Stossell.

RKO Radio

Started: "Come Share My Love," with Leon Errol, Veda Ann Borg, Michael St. Angel.

Shooting: "China Sky," "Isle of the Dead," "Experiment Perilous," "It's a Pleasure" (International), "Wonder Man" (Goldwyn), "Zombie on Broadway," "Tarzan and the Amazons" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Great Stagecoach Robbery," "Grissly's Millions."

Shooting: "Lake Placid Serenade," "Hitchike to Happiness," "Great Flamarion" (William Wilder).

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Czarina," with Tallulah Bankhead, Charles Coburn, Anne Baxter, Vincent Price, William Eythe, Mischa Auser.

Shooting: "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe," "Hangover Square," "Nob Hill."

United Artists

Finished: "Spellbound" (Vanguard).

Shooting: "Hold Autumn In Your Hand" (Prod. Artists, Inc.) "High Among the Stars" (Rogers), "Brewster's Millions" (Small), "It's In the Bag" (Skirball).

Universal

Finished: "Fugitive."

Started: "Fairy Tale Murder," with Gloria Jean, Keefe Brasselle, John Qualen, Bill Goodwin.

Shooting: "Suspect," "Salome — Where She Danced," "Frisco Sal."

Warners

Finished: "Corn Is Green."

Started: "San Antonio," with Errol Flynn, Alexis Smith, Harry Carey, Victor Francen.

Shooting: "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Pillar to Post," "Of Human Bondage," "Nobody Lives Forever."

Review

"Goin' to Town"

(RKO-Radio)

Hollywood, Sept. 24

DESIGNED to fit the fancy of listeners to the Lum and Abner radio programs, which continue in popularity over the years in a manner indicating that there's something earthy and vital in the material the comedians convey, "Goin' to Town" makes no passes at subtlety or finesse and concentrates on characterization and the broad sweep of rustic humor. The trade name for this is corn, but it's Grade 'A' corn, and nobody but the sophisticate, who's a minority ticket buyer anyway, despises that imperishably nourishing commodity.

This time the rural storekeepers form an oil company, meaning well enough, although there's no oil to back it. Their neighbors put in their money, and when the unintentional fakers go to the city to try to sell the company to the man who misled them into forming it, a twist of circumstance enables them to do so, at a profit to the home folks. Contrary to filmic routine, the well does not turn out to be a gusher.

The support includes Barbara Hale, Florence Lake, Dick Elliott, Grady Sutton, Herbert Rawlinson, Dick Baldwin and others, not to overlook N. T. G. and his floor show, an item mentionable in the billing of the attraction. It is a Jack William Votion production, produced by Frank Melford and directed by Leslie Goodwins from an original screenplay by Charles E. Roberts and Charles R. Marion.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Library of Congress Lists Film Trends

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—The Library of Congress film-selection staff reports a number of trends in current pictures, including an attempt by several productions "to question the morality of certain aspects of commercialism" in every-day life. This attempt, however, has been made "timidly and with a hasty and saving rationalization," according to the report.

Also cited is an effort "to use psychological material seriously and with intellectual as well as dramatic understanding." The selectors were also struck by the increased use of narrative commentary in features and cartoons, a development apparently borrowed from documentary pictures. Noting what may be regarded as a changing trend in the public's tastes, the selectors, who see all pictures, call attention to the fact that a number of war features last year found their heroes in groups rather than in individuals.

The Library of Congress staff, functioning at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, makes no effort to preserve the "best" films produced each year but chooses, rather, those which "best record the life and tastes and preferences of the American people," plus those which have won prizes or grossed unusually large receipts, thus reflecting the tastes of the time.

Peace Tie-ins for PRC

PRC reported here at the weekend that premieres are being negotiated for its "When the Lights Go on Again," in Washington, London, Paris and Moscow. Another promotional possibility is reported by the company in the American Legion's recent Chicago convention action of citing the song of the same title as "the world anthem for liberated countries."

AAA Board Affirms Award, Reverses 1

Two decisions of the New York Appeal Board were reported by the American Arbitration Association at the weekend on two appeals of clearance awards in the Los Angeles and Buffalo tribunals.

The board upheld the decision by Irvin Stalmaster, arbitrator in the Los Angeles tribunal, who dismissed a clearance complaint by G. L. Smith, operator of the York Theatre, that city, against all five consenting companies. Complaint had asked elimination or a cut of the 63-day margin of first-run theatres in Los Angeles to 49 days at its admission price of 30 cents and 35 days after first-run closing at its proposed price of 35 cents, and also that seven days' clearance of the Park and Franklin, Los Angeles, be eliminated and that the York be granted the same availability as other Los Angeles suburban theatres charging the same admission.

The AAA also reported reversal of the award by arbitrator Louis B. Dorr of the Buffalo tribunal, cutting to five days, clearance of Schine's Granada, Buffalo, over Basil Bros' Varsity. The complainant, in filing against all five consenting companies, asked for elimination of the four to ten days clearance of the Granada over the Varsity. Dipson Theatres, Inc., Buffalo Theatres and S. G. Theatre Corp. were intervenors.

Carolina Exhibitors To Meet Jan. 21-22

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 24.—Directors of the Theatre Owners Association of North and South Carolina, in a meeting here, set next Jan. 21-22 as the dates for the next general membership meeting, to be held in Charlotte.

The organization reports the largest membership in its history, listing over 300.

Quarantine Denting Milwaukee Grosses

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 24.—With theatres still hit by the 'polio' quarantine, no grosses here will succeed house averages, and only Warners' Theatre, where "In Society" and "The Mummy's Ghost" are showing, promises even to reach par, $14,000, for that theatre.

"Polo Joe" (WB) Reissue
"Tiger Shark" (WB) Reissue
ALHAMBRA—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Going My Way" (Para.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500).

"Sensations of 1945" (UA-Stone)
"Connee Boswell"—Stage
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Take It or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,500).

"In Society" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
WARNER—(2,400) (50c-72c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).

"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,000).

$15,000 for 'Janie' In Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 24.—"Janie," at the Radio City Theatre, grossed $15,000 here in a week of generally-average business. "Summer Storm" drew well at the World.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 21:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
WORLD—(350) (44c-60c-70c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $2,300).

"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
GOPHER—(998) (40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).

"Janie" (WB)
RADIO CITY—(4,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
CENTURY—(1,600) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500).

"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week downtown. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,500).

"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week downtown. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,000).

"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (44c-60c). Gross: $11,600. (Average: $12,800).

'Yellow Canary" (RKO)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
ASTER—(900) (25c-35c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500).

Asks All Exhibitors to Fulfill Pledge to U. S.

SEATTLE, Sept. 24.—An appeal to all exhibitors to fulfill their pledges to the United States by continuing to play Government short subjects was issued here at the weekend by the trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent theatre owners, concluding their quarterly meeting.

The trustees voted to continue full cooperation with the National Conference of Independent Exhibitors, formed in Chicago last February, and called for combined national effort on the consent decree and other matters vital to independents. Also voted was full support for the Sixth War Loan drive.

SIX-BIT WORD MEANING

DEATH!



This boy is going to die. Too bad. Nice kid. Might have been a great man some day. Doesn't matter —he's going to die.

"Killed by enemy action," the telegram will say.

But it ought to say, *"Killed by complacency!"*

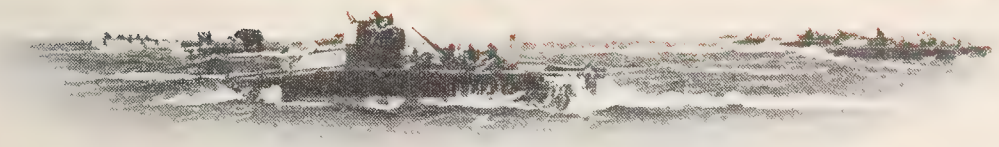
Whose complacency? Not yours? Good—but he'll still be dead . . . .

Listen—Americans by the millions are relaxing their efforts on the home front...letting America down in her moment of greatest need!

That's *complacency*—a six-bit word meaning *death*—death for American fighting men who need our last ounce of homefront support.

That's why we urge you to make room on your program NOW for

"THE BATTLE FOR THE MARIANAS"



FREE AT YOUR
WARNER EXCHANGE!

Show this 100%-filmed-under-fire two-reeler at *every performance!* Made by Marine Corps combat photographers, "THE BATTLE FOR THE MARIANAS" is filled with actual scenes of Jap snipers at work—Jap mass suicide—Jap civilians under combat conditions.

START IT GOING *NOW!*

SHOW IT AT *EVERY PERFORMANCE!*

DO THIS FOR AMERICA!

Photographed by Marine Corps cameramen. Edited and distributed by Warner Bros. for U.S. Government Office of War Information and exhibited under auspices of the War Activities Committee, Motion Picture Industry

"My sincere appreciation to Hollywood"



When a man—a group of men—or an industry does something important for me, I want to be sure and thank them.

And so I say "Thank you, Hollywood."

Thank you for the support you have given our magazine policies, for the faith and cooperation you have shown.

Seven years ago when I planned the policies of the newborn Ideal Magazines, I based these policies on the conviction that we must be an integral part of the industry itself, that its hopes, its dreams, its accomplishments were ours. Our magazines must be independent in their thinking, to be sure, fair and impartial in their coverage of news—observant, modern as the day-after-tomorrow, but yet a part of the industry itself.

Today the Ideal Women's Group Magazines—Movies, Movie Life, Movie Stars Parade and Personal Romances, following these policies, have enjoyed more than an EIGHT-FOLD GROWTH IN SEVEN YEARS. Our ABC circulation today reads ONE MILLION AND A HALF, of which 99.7% are voluntary newsstand sales. More than a million of these readers are in our Movie Group.

For our steady undeviating growth from 177,341 sales the first few issues to 1,500,000 today, I give full credit to all the members of my organization, but always realize that they could not have accomplished all they did without the faith and cooperation of Hollywood.

Our attainment of leadership and outstanding reader loyalty in the motion picture magazine field comes in large part from *your* belief in *us*, and from the cooperation you have always so willingly given.

"Thank you, Hollywood." Thank you for your help, your faith, and for the fine pictures and the outstanding personalities you have given us to write about.



Sincerely yours,

William M Cotton

WILLIAM M. COTTON
Publisher Ideal Women's Group

★ BUY AN EXTRA WAR BOND ★

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 60 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1944 TEN CENTS

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SETOA Hits 4 Proposals Of New Decree

Exhibitors Warned All May Be Affected

ATLANTA, Sept. 25.—Department of Justice proposals for the amendment of Sections 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the industry consent decree are subjected to critical analysis, and are found potentially dangerous for independent exhibitors, in a bulletin issued by the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, of which Nat M. Williams of Thomasville Ga., is president.

The analysis was made in the light of U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle's statement that "There will be no discriminations shown" in the Department's enforcement of the anti-trust laws within the industry, a statement which the Attorney General made during an interview in Los Angeles, as re-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Wormser Is Eastern Head of Classics

Irving Wormser will become Eastern sales manager of Film Classics, resigning as assistant to Nat Cohn, Columbia district manager, at the New York exchange, to accept the Film Classics post and also to acquire a financial interest in the Film Classics franchise for this territory. In the latter capacity he will become president of Film Classics Distributing Co., which controls the Metropolitan branch.

Wormser has been associated with Nat Cohn in Columbia's New York exchange for many years. His brother, Mortimer, is comptroller at Co-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Gain, Dr. Galperson Leaving for Coast

Dr. Alexander Galperson and Barrington C. Gain, representatives of J. Arthur Rank's British producing companies, will leave New York for Hollwood Friday for a two to three week visit.

In California Galperson and Gain will be joined by Wesley Ruggles, who recently signed with Rank to produce films both in England and Hollywood. Galperson and Gain will seek to line up Hollywood actors.

(*Continued on page 5*)

First Toronto Break In Frozen Prices

Toronto, Sept. 25. — First local break in the frozen admission price policy maintained for the duration by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board came today with the announcement that a permit had been issued to the Casino Theatre here for a five cent raise in its scale on the strength of the fact that the theatre features stage shows and burlesque, although having a combination policy which includes a screen feature and shorts at every performance.

Weather, Holdovers Help New B'way Films, 'Creek' Big

Cool, clear weather and extended holdovers are contributing to splendid grosses registered by some of the new arrivals at downtown New York first-run theatres this week. With $57,000 taken in on its first five days ending Sunday night, "Frenchman's Creek" is heading for a new 27-year house record at the Rivoli on a $75,000 gross for the first full week. The film drew 13,450 admissions on its opening day, last Wednesday, compared to 9,600 for "The Story of Dr. Wassell."

Another outstanding grosser is "Casanova Brown" at Radio City

(*Continued on page 4*)

U.S. Taxes Hit All-TimeHigh

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25. — Admission tax collections of $34,168,118 hit a new all-time high in August, an increase of $2,800,000 over the July receipts of $31,343,730, according to the Internal Revenue Bureau. Actually representing July collections, the August figures brought the total for the first four months under the current higher war tax rates to slightly more than $120,000,000, or double the sum collected in the corresponding period last year. For the first eight months ended with August, collections aggregated $179,009,169 against $105,867,298 to the end of that month a year ago.

Bureau records showed approximately one-third of the increase over July was recorded in the third New York (Broadway) district), where collections in August were $5,792,856, compared with $4,770,641 in the preceding month.

Joint Committee to Plan Tax Revision

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Members of the joint Congressional tax committee will be called into session immediately after the pending Congressional recess to tackle the job of tax revision, it was disclosed here today by Representative Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the House ways and means committee.

Doughton rejected as impractical proposals of business groups that cor-

(*Continued on page 5*)

SIMPP May Join U.S. in Crescent Case

Producers Seen Aiding Supreme Court Appeal

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—The Society of Independent M. P. Producers may participate as a Department of Justice ally in the U. S. Supreme Court hearing of cross-appeals from the Nashville Federal court decision in the Crescent Circuit anti-trust case, it was learned here today. The appeals hearing is expected to start about Oct. 18 in Washington.

The Crescent appeal appears to have increased in importance in the eyes of independent producers here since Wendell Berge, Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, let it be known recently that he will appear at the hearing to present the Government's position with respect to alleged theatre monopolies and, no

(*Continued on page 4*)

'Shortened' Schine Trial Starts Today

BUFFALO, Sept. 25.—Trial of the Government's anti-trust suit against Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., resuming in U. S. District Court here tomorrow after adjourning on June 8, is expected to be greatly shortened by the recent sale of four Schine houses, a move said to have "appeased" the Department of Justice to a considerable degree.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Sept. 12, the four theatres, bought by Charles Hayman of Niagara Falls, are the State and Appalachian at Appalachian, Va.; Viv at Corbin, Ky., and the Liberty, Pikes-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Loew Leaving Army Stays with OWI

Major Arthur Loew, associate director of the Office of War Information's overseas film bureau, has been given a two-month terminated leave by the Army, after which he will revert to inactive status.

It is understood that Loew will take a two-weeks leave before returning to the OWI here, where he will remain, at least until he concludes the selection of dubbed films from

(*Continued on page 5*)

Rodgers Warns of Spread Of Federal Regulation

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 25.—Federal Government regulation starting with only one phase of an industry would inevitably spread to other and all phases of the industry attacked, and eventually would affect everyone in the industry, William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, today told 200 exhibitors of this territory at a luncheon at the Hotel Muelhbach at which they were guests of Rodgers.

Rodgers urged that exhibitors study and join M-G-M in creating new patrons, pointing out that M-G-M is engaged in research now to discover why some people are not film patrons. He

(*Continued on page 5*)

Managers Warned on 'V-Day' Rumors

Gloversville, N. Y., Sept. 25. —Managers of Schine Circuit, Inc., are warned by the management—and the same warning would apply to all managers elsewhere—to make certain that the news they receive announcing 'V-Day' in Europe, is authentic and not merely a rumor, before taking any steps planned for closing theatres or observing the occasion.

Detroit Strike Only Marking Time

DETROIT, Sept. 25.—Negotiations in the dispute between the American Federation of Labor film delivery drivers and employers today was marking time, according to an official spokesman, pending the return of James Fitzsimmons, the Teamsters' Union leader, from New York.

The truce which ended the strike Friday night, after a hectic day, witnessed theatre managers from all over the Detroit area storming the film exchange building to pick up their own films. No houses had to shut, as far as could be learned, but some of the neighborhood shows did have to start late Friday night.

$865,000 for 'Wilson', $795,000 for 'SYWA'

"Wilson" will end a record eight weeks' run at the Roxy Theatre here tonight with a gross of approximately $865,000, and "Since You Went Away" will conclude 10 weeks at the Capitol tomorrow with a $795,000 gross.

"Wilson" will continue its run on Broadway on a moveover to the Victoria tomorrow. It was the first film to run eight weeks at the Roxy where the previous record was five weeks; $1,000,000 in admissions, including Federal taxes, were taken in up to Sunday and the final gross is expected to reach $1,050,000 by tonight.

"SYWA" did not remain at the Capitol for the 11 week length of the "Gone With the Wind" run, but the $795,000 gross for 10 weeks will far exceed the $700,000 registered by "GWTW" in 11 weeks.

'Wilson' Now in 90 Spots

Twenty-one additional theatres are scheduled to start showing "Wilson" by the end of Sept., bringing to 90 the total of theatres playing the film.

Wm. Jenkins Heads Augusta Theatres

ATLANTA, Sept. 25.—William K. Jenkins, circuit executive, has been elected president of Augusta Amusements, Inc., succeeding the late Frank Miller. Augusta Amusements operates the Miller, Modjeska, Imperial, Rialto, and Dreamland, in Augusta. Jenkins also is president of Atlanta Enterprises, Georgia Theatres, and Community Theatres.

Oregon ITO Rejects Allied Affiliation

PORTLAND, ORE., Sept. 25.—Independent Theatre Owners of Oregon, at a special meeting here, has rejected affiliation of their organization with National Allied.

Also on the agenda was a discussion of postwar theatre taxes.

Personal Mention

GRADWELL L. SEARS, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, arrived in New York from California yesterday.

•

FRANK ROSS, producer, is due in New York from California accompanied by his wife, JEAN ARTHUR. MERVYN LEROY, who is directing "The Robe" for Ross is due here next week.

•

MONROE RUBINGER, of Warner Bros. studio publicity department is coming East toward the end of next month to marry MARJORIE KRASNE of Omaha.

•

SIDNEY M. KULICK, PRC Eastern division manager, will leave New York next Friday for a tour of New England and mid-Western exchanges.

•

IKE KATZ, president of PRC's local branch in Atlanta, has proceeded to California from a franchise holder's committee meeting in Chicago.

•

H. J. YATES, president and managing director of Consolidated Film Industries, will leave the Coast for New York next Tuesday, Oct. 3.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, assistant general manager of Warner Theatres and RUDY WEISS, real estate head, were in New Haven yesterday.

•

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal's Eastern advertising and publicity manager, will leave the Coast Wednesday for New York.

•

IRVING RUBINE, executive assistant to LESTER COWAN, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

JOSEPH HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Productions, returned from California yesterday.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, left for Atlanta yesterday.

NATE J. BLUMBERG, president of Universal, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

LT. COL. HAL ROACH, who has been on active service overseas for the past six months with the U. S. Air Force, has returned to this country and is now in Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, for a check-up.

•

WALTER POTAMKIN, manager of Warner's Diamond Theatre, Philadelphia, and ELSIE LUKOFF, receptionist in the Warner circuit offices there, have announced their engagement.

•

RAYMOND SCHMERTZ, 20th Century-Fox salesman in Cleveland, has been presented with a gold watch by J. J. GRADY, district manager, in recognition of his sales record during the past year.

•

FRANKLIN PEASE, Paramount booker in Philadelphia, was married last week to ANN SMITH, secretary to HARRY GREEN, Ross Federal Service manager.

•

ROSE WIPFLER, oldest Fanchon and Marco employe in St. Louis in length of service, was recently honored by her fellow workers at a luncheon.

•

PVT. MARCUS LOEW II, son of DAVID L. LOEW, and ETHEL SNYDER of Beverly Hills, Calif., will be married in the near future.

•

HAROLD GREENBURGER, manager of the Moreland Theatre, Cleveland, has announced his engagement to Miss TEMA LEINER.

•

LEONARD CASEY, booker for Hunt's Theatres in Southern New Jersey, became the father of a baby boy last week.

•

J. KNOX STRACHAN, Warner Theatres publicity director in Cleveland, is in New York on a visit.

Rites Thursday for Mrs. Marie Raftery

A solemn requiem mass will be held Thursday, at 11 A.M., at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Forest Hills, L. I., for Mrs. Marie A. Raftery, wife of Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, who died yesterday morning at her home after a prolonged illness. Mrs. Raftery was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Silas Wright Titus of Brooklyn.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Raftery is survived by her daughters, Marie and Ellen; a son, Edward C. Raftery, Jr.; three sisters, Mrs. Thomas M. Stanley, Mrs. Manuel Balaguer, Mrs. Walter D. Murnane, and three brothers, Walter E. Titus, Robert L. Titus and Austin E. Titus.

Burial will be at St. John's Cemetery, Middle Village, L. I.

Hollywood Writers Cite 'Tomorrow'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25. — Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World!" is the first film among several to be selected for special recognition by Hollywood writers, representing seven writing guilds in the entertainment industry, as an outstanding example of combining entertainment with an important idea, it was announced here yesterday by Emmet Lavery, chairman of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization.

The Writers Mobilization plans to hold special premieres for those films selected, and "Tomorrow" will be shown under the auspices of the HWM late in November. Cowan will turn over to the Mobilization all proceeds from the premiere. A theatre will be selected and committees formed to handle the opening.

Berg at WAC Office For 6th War Loan

Herbert Berg, trade press contact on loan-out from United Artists, checked into War Activities Committee headquarters yesterday to handle trade paper publicity for the industry's forthcoming Sixth War Loan.

Berg, who will be associated with publicity and advertising chief John Hertz, Jr., will concentrate both on reporting the activities of the campaign for the trade journals and the preparation of material for spec Sixth War Loan trade paper issue

NEW YORK THEATRES

HELD OVER! 3rd WEEK!
"STORM OVER LISBON"
• A Republic Picture
starring
VERA HRUBA RALSTON
RICHARD ARLEN
ERICH VON STROHEIM
with Otto Kruger—Eduardo Ciannelli
Robert Livingston—Mona Barrie
REPUBLIC THEATRE
B'way Bet. 51st & 52nd
Tel. Co. 5-9647

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Showplace of the Nation — Rockefeller Center
GARY COOPER — TERESA WRIGHT
in International Pictures'
"CASANOVA BROWN"
NEW DISNEY CARTOON, "HOW TO PLAY FOOTBALL", AND "ROCKEFELLER CENTER" ("THIS IS AMERICA" SERIES)
Spectacular Stage Presentation
1st Mezz. Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Alan Marshal • Laraine Day
'BRIDE BY MISTAKE'
Marsha Hunt • Allyn Joslyn
EXTRA—Brazil Today!

STATE
ON SCREEN
DOROTHY LAMOUR
FRED MacMURRAY
BETTY HUTTON
in PARAMOUNT'S
'AND THE ANGELS SING'
IN PERSON
The CHARIOTEERS
HARRISON & FISHER
JACKIE KELK
'HOMER' Brown
of Radio's Henry Aldrich

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
Fred Mac Murray Barbara Stanwyck
Edward G. Robinson
"DOUBLE INDEMNITY"
IN PERSON
THE ANDREWS SISTERS
MITCHELL AYRES AND HIS BAND.
PARAMOUNT Times Square

★ PARAMOUNT presents ★
Joan Fontaine
Arturo de Cordova
'FRENCHMAN'S CREEK'
★ RIVOLI, B'way & 49th St ★

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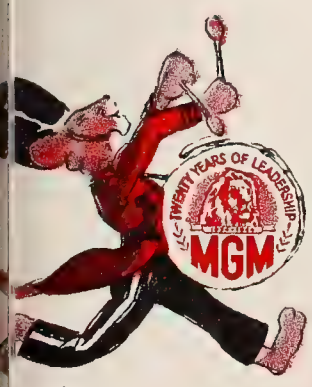
WATCH THE FIRE WORKS!



The showmen of M-G-M are putting on a promotion that will resound throughout the nation. A worthy salute to our mighty Technicolor drama. Spearheaded by powerful WLW's radio campaign, plus posting, newspapers, parades, banquets, excitement! The works!

•

KING VIDOR'S Production "AN AMERICAN ROMANCE" Starring BRIAN DONLEVY with Ann Richards, Walter Abel, John Qualen, Horace McNally · Photographed in Technicolor · Screen Play by Herbert Dalmas and William Ludwig · Produced and Directed by King Vidor · An M-G-M Picture



p Selling Bonds!

Weather, Holdovers Help New B'way Films, 'Creek' Big

(Continued from page 1)

Music Hall, heading for a second week's gross of $121,500. The initial week's gross exceeded early expectations, reaching a terrific $123,000. The film and a stage show are expected to continue for several weeks.

The Strand and Paramount are continuing profitably, with "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "Double Indemnity," respectively. "Old Lace," combined with a stage show featuring Charlie Barnet, is headed for an excellent fourth week's gross of $56,000 on the basis of $29,000 taken in over the weekend and it is now set for seven weeks to become the first film in 12 years to run that long. "Double Indemnity," with a stage bill which includes Mitchell Ayes and band and the Andrews Sisters, is expected to bring $65,000 on a third week; it will probably hold until Oct. 11 before making way for "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."

'SYWA' Ends 10-Week Run

"Since You Went Away" will end a 10-week run at the Capitol tomorrow night with a gross of over $60,000 on the 10th week, on the basis of $37,500 recorded on the first four days ending Sunday night. The ninth week's gross was around $66,000. M-G-M's "The Seventh Cross," combined with a stage show featuring Horace Heidt and his musical aggregation, will take over Thursday.

"Wilson" will bow out of the Roxy tonight with about $85,000 recorded on the eighth week. Twentieth Century-Fox's "Greenwich Village" will take over tomorrow with a stage show featuring Veloz and Yolanda and Senor Wences.

'Kismet's' $34,000

"Kismet" is another film showing strong drawing power, with $34,000 claimed on the fifth week at the Astor; it continues. "Bride By Mistake" will get a substantial $24,000 on its second week at the Palace and it likewise will run on. "Music in Manhattan" will follow. A mild $30,000 is expected by the Criterion for the first week of "The Impatient Years"; the film will hold. "Doughgirls," at the Hollywood, is also below expectations, on a $19,000 gross expected for its fourth week. "To Have and Have Not" will follow.

"Wing and a Prayer" will conclude a four-week run at the Globe tonight with about $10,000 recorded for the fourth week. M-G-M's "Barbary Coast Gent" will take over tomorrow. "Wing and a Prayer" will continue at the Gotham until Friday before making way for "Dangerous Journey." It is expected to bring about $8,200 on its fourth week at the Gotham and an additional $5,400 on the final three days of a fifth week. "Storm Over Lisbon" will gross about $7,000 on a third week at the Republic; it will continue. "The Big Noise" will bring a profitable $9,500 for its first week at the Rialto and will continue.

Chevalier Reported Safe

Maurice Chevalier, reported last month to have been shot by Maquis in France for alleged Nazi collaboration, is now said to be safe in France.

SETOA Hits Four Gov't Proposals for Decree

(Continued from page 1)

ported in *Motion Picture Daily* on Aug. 21.

A letter addressed to SETOA members and signed by Williams, which accompanies the analysis of th Department's decree proposals, reads in part: "The object is to inform you that it will be useless, if this decree is adopted, and you suddenly find that it's your house that's on fire, to holler at your association. We're telling you now that we think it will be, and that we can offer no help then."

Analysis of Section 8

Discussing the Department's proposal to include in Section 8 the statement that: clearance shall be deemed to be unreasonable whenever its effect is to restrain competition between two or more theatres unreasonably," the analysis says: "Bear in mind this matter of clearance is a means of regulating the distributor of pictures and to the extent that it regulates him, it regulates you. That clearance which becomes unreasonable because its effect is to restrain competition between two or more theatres unreasonably" doesn't have anything to do with just the five defendants' theatres. It has to do with the way in which the five defendants sell their pictures to your theatres, and from the moment the decree may be effective."

Unreasonable Clearance

Of the Department's proposal to authorize arbitrators to eliminate unreasonable clearance between theatres whether or not substantial competition exists between them, the analysis says: "This would seem perhaps to mean that a theatre now existing or to be built by some promoter after the war, can follow immediately on a picture which you may have, in the opinion of the exchange, under-booked or over-advertised. Or it might even mean that a condition would come about by which the distributor would book it for two days in your theatre, follow it in your opposition, and do a little advertising on his own just to show somebody something. Or maybe it doesn't mean that at all. It's hard to tell."

Exhibitors are warned that the proposal to amend Section 9 by prohibiting distributors to license films on terms which have the effect of "unreasonably restraining competition" between theatres "would seem to apply to everybody's theatres, not just the theatres of these five defendants—an application that is brought about by making it apply to the distributors of the pictures which the theatres must have."

Amending Sections 9 and 10

Further discussing the proposed amendments to Sections 9 and 10 the analysis declares: "When an arbitrator sets out to determine whether the terms (meaning price) may have the effect of unreasonably restraining competition between theatres, it looks like he would have to go pretty deep into what those terms are. If that be true, it simply means that every exhibitor who is complained against must air his film deals for the other exhibitor's benefit, and for other distributors, too."

Theatre Divorcement

Of the proposed Section 11 amendments pertaining to theatre divorcement and restrainers on acquistion of further theatre interests, the analysis says: "If that's what is to be done to these particular companies, it can come pretty close home if in fact there are to be no preferences shown. For that remedy surely must be based upon the fact that the Department thinks there is some sort of abuse and violation in the fact that there is no theatre operating competition in a town. In a brief filed in the Griffith case the Department took the position that a monopoly in any community however small affected the inter-state trade in motion pictures."

"Maybe," the analysis concludes, "under the present philosophy of Government it is wrong for one company to own all of the theatres in a given town, but all right for you to do so; maybe all of the arbitrators who will be selected will understand the picture business better than those in it and will be not only honest and fair, but all wise. But maybe there will be 'no preferences shown.' Then how do you like this thing?"

Detroit Lifts Ban On Child Matinees

DETROIT, Sept. 25.—With the polio epidemic declining and school resumed, Detroit area theatres have resumed the weekend matinees for children which they suspended two weeks ago.

L. B. Mayer Recovering

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—The condition of Louis B. Mayer has been reported as "satisfactory" following successful checking of a blood clot on a lung. Mayer passed the crisis of his illness today and his temperature is reported almost normal.

Othman to Washington

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—Frederick O. Rothman, who covers studio activities here for the United Press, has been transferred to the UP Washington bureau where he will write political columns.

Stiefel to Hollywood

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 25.—Samuel H. Stiefel, local exhibitor, who will leave shortly for Hollywood as a partner in Mickey Rooney, Inc., was honored today at a farewell dinner given him by industry members here at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Stiefel's theatres here and in Baltimore and Washington will be operated by his brother, Alexander.

Skouras Heads Exhibit

Charles P. Skouras, chairman of the national executive committee of the Army-at-War Exhibition, will be host at a buffet supper Friday at the Sherry Netherlands Hotel here, in connection with the exhibition, to be held earlier in the day at the Jules Laurents Studios.

SIMPP May Join U.S. in Crescent Case

(Continued from page 1)

doubt, therewith establish the Department's viewpoint and policy in all future similar actions.

Indications are that Samuel Goldwyn will be the pivotal figure in SIMPP's participation in the Crescent case appeal. Goldwyn reportedly maintains that his pictures have not been exhibited over the Crescent circuit for years. Goldwyn, however, declined to make a statement today and referred inquiries to Loyd Wright, his attorney, who also declined to comment. Wright also is president of the SIMPP.

Columnist's Disclosure

Drew Pearson, columnist and radio commentator, in a Blue Network broadcast Sunday night, said that Goldwyn and Mary Pickford were joining in a Supreme Court action against theatre "monopolies," without identifying any, as a result of the refusal of some theatre situations to exhibit Goldwyn's "Up in Arms" at terms being asked by the producer.

In the event SIMPP does formally participate in the government's Crescent appeal, an interesting situation is foreseen. SIMPP members, James Cagney, Charles Chaplin, Sol Lesser, Miss Pickford, David Selznick, Edward Small and Hunt Stromberg, release through United Artists, which has no theatre interests. SIMPP members, Walt Disney, Edward Golden and Goldwyn, release through RKO Radio, which has. Universal would be joined, at least indirectly, through SIMPP member Walter Wanger who, while functioning as his own producing unit, is financed by Universal.

Goldwyn's N. Y. Counsel Unaware of Move

Morris Ernst, New York counsel for Goldwyn, yesterday disclaimed knowledge of the producer's participation in Supreme Court litigation with Miss Pickford against industry "monopolies," as reported by Drew Pearson in the latter's Sunday night broadcast. Asserting that the report was "news" to him, Ernst referred questioners to Loyd Wright, Goldwyn's Coast attorney.

Miss Pickford, now in New York, could not be reached for comment up to a late hour yesterday. She, with other independent producers, joined with Goldwyn in his protest action last month involving exhibition of his "Up in Arms" in a Reno, Nev., dance hall when T. & D. Enterprises there declined to book the film on terms sought by Goldwyn.

Leo Samuels on Tour for Disney

Leo F. Samuels, Walt Disney representative, will leave for Cuba next week on a tour of RKO's Caribbean offices to discuss new Disney product. He will visit Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Venezuela, Panama and Mexico and will then head for Disney studios in California before returning to New York around Jan. 1.

Rodgers Warns of Regulation Spread

(Continued from page 1)

said that the company is trying to develop means of turning non-patrons into screen enthusiasts.

Stressing the necessity for careful, diligent promotion of good pictures now and when the war ends, to forestall and overcome a probable tendency for attendance to slump, Rodgers declared that M-G-M, believing in the permanent value of good pictures, would help exhibitors in small and large towns in their promotions of these films to get and keep all patrons on the basis of high future value.

Rodgers cited among forthcoming product "The Thin Man Goes Home," "Dr. Red Adams," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo," "Meet Me in St. Louis," "Ziegfeld Follies," "Autumn Fever," "Anchors Aweigh," "National Velvet," "Music for Millions" and "Thrill of a Romance," all of which he saw during his recent visit to the studio. Following the luncheon, Rodgers left for St Louis for a visit with J. F. Willingham, who became manager there several months ago.

Subsubsequents Discussed

Rodgers and other M-G-M home office executives are here for a series of meetings with exchange personnel. They met yesterday with branch office managers and others and the meetings were continued today. Public relations representatives of the company met with William F. Ferguson, director of exploitation, on present and future cooperation with small town and subsequent runs as well as larger situations to build up and maintain postwar patronage.

Unable to complete the business on hand in two days, Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer, has extended the office managers' meeting for a third day. William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, today concluded a two-day meeting of five of his field representatives. Ferguson left for Chicago today for a brief visit before returning to New York.

MGM Resuming Visits Of Field Managers

Shortly after William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, returns to New York from the Coast, the company will resume the home office visits of district and branch managers. The visits were temporarily discontinued when Rodgers left for Hollywood three weeks ago.

Arriving on Oct. 2, for a week at the home office, will be Sam Shirley, Midwestern district manager, Chicago; D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines manager, and H. A. Friedel, Denver. Due here on Oct. 9 are J. P. Byrne, Central district manager, with headquarters in Detroit; J. F. Willingham, St. Louis manager; and C. J. Briant, New Orleans.

Gain, Dr. Galperson Leaving for Coast

(Continued from page 1)

directors and producers to make films for Rank in England in the postwar. They will also seek to arrange for some of Rank's personnel, under contract to make films for American film companies in Hollywood in an interchange of talent.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



TWO "BOXOFFICE" BLUE RIBBON WINNERS IN A ROW FOR PARAMOUNT! AUGUST AWARD TO "GOING MY WAY" FOLLOWS JULY'S PRIZE TO "THE STORY OF DR. WASSELL".... AND BARNEY BALABAN, PARAMOUNT PRESIDENT, IS MAKING ROOM ON THE WALL FOR THIS SECOND SUCCESSIVE PARCHMENT BEING PRESENTED TO HIM BY WILLIAM G. FORMBY, "BOXOFFICE" EDITOR, ON BEHALF OF THE HUNDREDS OF EDITORS, RADIO FILM COMMENTATORS, CLUB WOMEN AND REVIEWING COMMITTEES WHO VOTED FOR THE "OUTSTANDING MERIT" OF THESE FILMS.

'Shortened' Schine Trial Starts Today

(Continued from page 1)

ville, Ky. A temporary court order issued by Judge John Knight in May, 1942, giving Schine two years to dispose of a number of houses, was extended last Spring for six months.

A pre-trial conference, thought in some circles to have been promoted by the Department's "appeased" attitude, was reported to have been called by Judge Knight for last Friday and then to have been cancelled when no Schine representatives were present. Questioned on the subject today, however, a spokesman for Schine counsel said he was not aware of an invitation to such a conference.

Trial's Beginning

The trial began May 31, five years after the suit was filed. It had been adjourned until Aug. 15, when Seth Richardson of Schine counsel had to attend another case, in Washington, and because Judge Knight was scheduled to preside at the July term of Federal Court in Jamestown, N. Y. A further postponement was later granted because of the illness of Saul Rogers, who had been handling cross-examination for Schine.

Attorney Rogers has now recovered and will be in court here when the examination of witnesses is resumed. During the recess, Richardson withdrew, and Edward F. McClennen of Boston, who took a prominent part in the Momand Theatres anti-trust case, was added to the Schine counsel, of which Willard S. McKay is Schine attorney of record. Robert L. Wright, handling the case for the Department of Justice, will be assisted by a large number of Federal attorneys.

Joint Committee to Plan Tax Revision

(Continued from page 1)

poration taxes be completely eliminated, declaring that to do so would necessitate the imposition of a stiff undistributed profits tax, to which corporations are also opposed.

Doughton said that a number of steps will have to be taken before anything definite can be done on tax reduction. "First," he said, "we must get the best estimates possible of the postwar Government budget; second, the prospective national income; third, see what the revenue yield would be on that national income at present rates. Then we can determine what there is to work on in the way of lightening the tax load."

Loew Leaving Army, Stays with OWI

(Continued from page 1)

distributors for showing in liberated countries.

Loew went into the Army in June, 1942, joining the morale division. He then served with the Signal Corps before being loaned to the OWI. It is understood that his contract with Loew's, where he was first vice-president and general manager of the International department, was terminated by mutual consent when he entered the Army.

A foreign department spokesman for Loew's could not say whether Loew would eventually resume his former post with the company.

British Ministry Acts on Strike

LONDON, Sept. 25.—The Labor Ministry today ordered an inquiry, under the Industrial Code Act, into the Crowd Peoples Union's threat to withdraw studio extras from Gabriel Pascal's "Caesar and Cleopatra" unless the producer concedes the closed-shop principle for extras.

The film's largest crowd, called last week with the understanding that it would be used throughout this week, was paid off Saturday and told to await further word about returning. The management was described as undecided about issuing a further call, the inference being that the producer became aware that a union known as the Film Artistes Association was planning to start a strike without warning. This union, which demands that all extras, no matter how rarely employed, become members and which also runs a booking agency, was described at the weekend as being prepared to allow Pascal to finish his present crowd sequences upon the condition that FAA might recruit non-members in the studio during the week.

J. Arthur Rank, speaking as Pascal's backer and as president of the British Film Producers Association, flatly refused to agree to this proposal, saying that on no account would he permit any man to be coerced to join a union against his will.

Rogers at Exhibitor Reception in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 25. — Roy Rogers, Republic's cowboy, here for appearances with the rodeo at the Arena, was honor guest at a reception held today at the Variety Club, where he met exhibitors and representatives of the press.

Among those present were: Abe and Lew Sablosky, Dave Milgram, Mike Felt, Raymond Schwartz, John Turner, Ted Schlanger, Lester Krieger, Lou Davidoff, Elmer Hollander, William Goldman, Jay Emanuel, Lew Pizor, Jack Greenberg, Sam Varbalow, Harry Dembow, I. Epstein, William Greenfield, Milt Rogasner, Mo Wax, Norman Lewis and Abe Rover. Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, has returned to New York.

Wormser Is Eastern Head of Classics

(*Continued from page* 1)

lumbia's home office. Another brother, Sam, is an exhibitor in New Jersey. He will be the honor guest at an Eastern industry luncheon at the Hotel Astor on Oct. 4.

Wormser, whose appointment was announced here yesterday by L. E. (Nicky) Goldhammer, Film Classics' general sales manager, will join the company next Monday.

Cinema Lodge Meeting

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith will hold its first regular monthly meeting of the new season at the Hotel Piccadilly here on Thursday evening. A feature of the meeting will be the induction of new members who have joined since the last meeting in May.

Review

"Tall in the Saddle"

(RKO)

FIRST of four big-scale Westerns on RKO's new program, "Tall in the Saddle" is super without being special. It should round up hordes of action fans.

John Wayne, itinerant cowhand, arrives on the scene with a simple philosophy: straight shooting and a dislike of women. No Eastern girl was ever more faintaway than Audrey Long, who arrives in town at the same time; no dowager ever more acidulous than Elisabeth Risdon, her aunt; no drunk more jovial than Gabby Hayes, who drives the stagecoach; and when Ella Raines comes on the scene as a spitfire ranch owner, she really gives off fire. Expert supporting performances add stature to the screenplay by Michael Hogan and Paul P. Fix. Miss Raines' brother, Russell Wade; her stepfather, Don Douglas, and a smooth lawyer, Ward Bond, all mixed up in the death of the former master of the Eastern women's K. C. Ranch, are three-dimensional folks. They check the story from running hog-wild to melodrama when Wayne goes on the warpath and starts solving things. Credit the film also with unusual romance for a Western.

Robert Fellows' production gives no scenic tour of the cattle country but it is solid and ample. Edward L. Marin's direction keeps the fists pounding, the mystery thick and the plot tangles well in hand.

Running time, 87 minutes. "G."* Release in block 1.

TOM LOY

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Bill of Rights' for WB Employees

Warners has issued an employees' "bill of rights" in the form of a 25-page personnel manual, compiled by the company's personnel department and approved by both the management and the Office Employees Union, covering all questions relating to company policy in its relations with employees.

The manual, said to be the first of its kind in this industry, has been distributed to home office department heads for their guidance in answering questions raised by members of their staffs, or in dealing with situations involving vacations, leaves of absence, merit increases, sick leave, overtime, promotions, severance pay, holidays, lateness, absence, marriage leave, priority rights for returning service men and women, and other matters.

Issuance of the booklet, according to Ralph W. Budd, director of personnel, is to bring about a standardization of personnel procedure and facilitate handling of all matters and requests pertaining to employees.

Rosecan Hearing Is Set for Nov. 13

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 25.—Hearing on the Rosecan arbitration complaint has been set for Nov. 13 before arbitrator Harry G. Erbs here. This is the clearance complaint which Harry C. Arthur seeks to have dismissed.

Hearing dates for clearance complaints filed by Sol and Irving Goldfarb, for the Ritz Theatre, East Alton, Ill., and A. D. Magarian, for the Gaty Theatre, East St. Louis, Ill., will be heard on Nov. 17 and Nov. 15, respectively, before arbitrators Fred Armstrong and Wilbur Jones.

Peckham Named

David B. Peckham, comptroller of sales for Western Electric, has been named comptroller of manufacture. Peckham succeeds John H. Stahr, who died recently. Clifford W. Smith will replace Peckham as sales comptroller.

Nizer and Kilroe on Copyright Faculty

Louis Nizer, film attorney, and Edwin P. Kilroe, 20th Century-Fox copyright lawyer, are among those who will lecture in a new course on "Current Problems in Copyright Law," offered by the Practicing Law Institute here beginning Oct. 5. Nizer will give two addresses on: "Copyright in Relation to Motion Pictures," and Kilroe's single talk will cover "Copyright Legislation" and "international Copyright."

The meetings, not restricted to lawyers, will be held on Thursday and Friday evenings at the New York County Law Association building here. Other speakers will include MacDonald De Witt, Sydney M. Kaye, Charles S. Rosenschein, Judge Vincent Leibell, Prof. Milton Handler and Prof. Zecharuah Chafee.

'Romance' Premieres Extended to 181

Following the 132-city "world premiere" of M-G-M's "An American Romance," set for Oct. 12 in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia, a 49-city preview of the film will be started about Oct. 26, it was reported here yesterday by Howard Dietz, M-G-M vice president and director of advertising-publicity.

To be known as "Capital Premiere," showings will be held in the 48 state capitals and in Washington. Each opening will be given advance campaigns by field exploiteers.

Horton to Head Video

Dr. Donald Horton of Yale University has joined Columbia Broadcasting as a research psychologist to head the network's television audience research, according to an announcement made here by John K. Churchill, CBS director of research. Dr. Horton will develop and supervise special research on television.

Short Subject Review

"What To Do With Germany"

(20th Century-Fox—MOT)

March of Time has dipped into the problem of the peace now confronting the Allied strategists, and brings a timely and punchy treatment of the issues. It presents an indictment of the entire German nation and a demand for retribution. In brief, yet emphatic detail, the subject explains why the German people, as well as their leaders, are responsible for the millions lying dead in the wake of the Nazi assault.

The menace, it is said, has not been crushed, with shots of German prisoners who, not humbled by their defeats, are already planning a new Reich. Militarism, described as the fundamental concept of Prussian philosophy, is presented as the "root of all evil." Peace plans put forth by Sumner Wells, Lord Vansittart and others are also described. This release is literally laden with exploitation possibilities. Further, it is an important part of what is needed to bring home to the American people their responsibility in the making of a permanent peace among nations. Running time, 18½ minutes.

Prefect Case Appeal Sent to New Haven

Papers appealing Judge Carroll Hinck's April 14 decision against Prefect Theatres in its $5,452,575 anti-trust suit have been forwarded by Saul Rogers, plaintiff's counsel, to Raymond E. Hackett, Prefect attorney of record in New Haven, for immediate filing in U. S. District Court there.

The suit, charging a majority of the distributors with conspiracy to keep product from the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, Conn., was tried last Spring for 21 days, with Judge Hincks taking the case from the jury at the conclusion of the plaintiffs' testimony. It will now go before the U. S. District Court of Appeals.

Para. Cameraman Killed in Pacific

Damien Parer, 33, Paramount News photographer, credited with filming more Pacific battles in this war than any other camera man, was killed by Japs last week while shooting front line action in Peleliu Island, according to a Navy Department dispatch received here by Paramount.

Parer, an Australian, formerly worked for the Australian Ministry of Information, in which capacity he recorded the Greek, Syrian and North African campaigns. He joined Paramount News at the outbreak of the Pacific War. Surviving are his widow and parents.

Goodman Starts Tour

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25. — Morris Goodman, Republic's foreign sales manager, will leave tonight by air for Mexico City on a trip which will take him compleetly around South America. He is due in New York, via Hollywood, in mid-December.

Kobak Tells Blue's Television Plans

The Blue Network will have its own television and frequency-modulation stations, starting work on the outlets when conditions permit, Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president of the network reported here yesterday at a press luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria.

FM stations in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Hollywood will be linked into an FM network by the Blue, Kobak said. Television stations are also contemplated in the four cities. In the meantime, the Blue will train personnel in the use of television by experimenting on facilities available.

Kobak envisages Hollywood as the most important television program center. He indicated a desire of the Blue to work with the film industry on television. Kobak said that he personally endorses the stand taken by Columbia Broadcasting on the future development of television which calls for experimentation in the higher frequencies before definite standards are set. He expects FM broadcasting to eventually take the place of present broadcasting and indicated that the Blue web will be on an equal footing with other networks as far as the future development of FM broadcasting is concerned. The Blue will build studios in the four aforementioned cities after the war since the studios which they now lease from NBC can only be held for two years after equipment becomes available.

Chicago Meets for $250,000 War Fund

CHICAGO, Sept. 25.—Film row here closed between 11 and noon today to attend a Community War Fund drive meeting at the Blackstone Theatre, where the audience was addressed by Clarence Randall, Chicago area chairman; Arthur Schoenstadt, president of the Schoenstadt Circuit, who is chairman of the drive's amusement and recreation division, and Jack Flynn, Western division manager for M-G-M, who with Tom Gilliam, local 20th-Fox head, are in charge of the distributors' division. The industry's quota here is $250,000.

Managers Prepare for Sixth Loan Drive

READING, N. J., Sept. 25.—A "Victory Dinner" was held here recently by theatre managers in this territory as the initial action in the coming Sixth War Loan Drive. Judge Paul N. Schaeffer, general chairman of the Fifth War Loan committee, addressed the meeting.

Among those present were J. Lester Stallman, Astor; Cormack G. Keeney, Park and Rajah; Paul E. Glase, Embassy, Ritz and Penn; Larry E. Levy, Loew's; Birk Binnard, Warner, and Paul Esterly, Strand.

'U' Expands Office

Universal has leased an additional 10,000 square feet of space for its home office, to be used by the company's foreign and other departments starting Oct. 1. Part of the space was previously occupied by the U. S. Army's Overseas Motion Picture Service exchange which has removed.

Review

"Stagecoach to Monterey"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Sept. 25

IN five minutes under an hour this Western, starring Alan Lane, puts down and rolls up more and better story content than customers are accustomed to getting in longer sessions with the toters of six-guns. The film is a departure, too, in that the shooting results in the death of not less than eight, maybe more, bad men, instead of leaving them all standing at the finish.

Lane, a personable cowhand who's really a Treasury Department operative, arrives in Monterey, Ariz., accompanied by Wally Vernon, as a tramp printer who's also a T. D. operative, to track down an early-day bunco artist who sells something called Mint Certificates to the citizens who do not know there is no such currency. The means by which the T. D. men accomplish their mission are well defined and positive, Vernon supplying some comedy as they go along about it. Others in the cast are Peggy Stewart, Twinkle Watts and LeRoy Mason.

Lesley Selander directed for associate-producer Stephen Auer, from a script by Norman Hall, which is trimly contrived and marred only by an occasional intrusion of 1944 slang placed in the mouths of 1870 characters.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G."* Release date Sept. 15.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Herzbrun, Reticker Will Head SMPAD

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—Bernard Herzbrun has been elected president of the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors here. Other officers include Hugh Reticker, vice president, and Harry Kelso, secretary-treasurer. New board members are: George Brooks, William Ferrari, William Flannery, Lucius Croxton, J. Russell Spencer, Richard Riddel, Kelso, Herzbrun, Gasnor Chittenden, Russell Kimball and Ralph Gilbert.

Denies Injunction for 20th's 'Roger Touhy'

CHICAGO, Sept. 25.—Federal Judge E. R. Shaw today denied a motion, filed by attorneys Irving Roth and Joseph Gilbert for Roger Touhy, for a temporary injunction against the showing of 20th Century-Fox's "Roger Touhy, Gangster."

The attorneys stated that they will file a $1,000,000 damage suit against the film company. Touhy is serving a life sentence in State's prison at Joliet.

Stagehands Sue Union

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 25.—Ralph W. Baur and Henry Klaverkamp, local stagehands, have filed suit in the Circuit Court here to restrain the St. Louis stagehands union from removing cash and securities alleged to be in excess of $50,000 from its safe deposit box. The plaintiffs filed suit in February seeking damages of $102,000 from the union for forcing payment of alleged illegal dues. The new action is to prevent the organization from removing assets before the original suit is adjudicated.

Strong Joins Basch

Jay Strong, writer, producer and director in television, has been named television director of Basch Radio Productions, Strong, in show business 15 years, formerly directed at the Shubert Belasco, Washington; Orpheum, Montreal, and the Brandeis, Omaha.

Legion Classifies Seven New Films

The Legion of Decency has classified the following new films: Class A-1, "Babes on Swing Street" and "Riders of Santa Fe," Universal; "Cowboy from Lonesome River," Columbia; "My Pal Wolf" and "Tall in the Saddle," RKO, and "National Barn Dance," Paramount. Also listed, as class A-2, was "Mrs. Parkington," M-G-M.

Livingston Missing

Lieut. Jeff Livingston, USAAF, former M-G-M short subjects publicist here, has been reported missing in action over Germany. A volunteer, Livingston entered the Air Forces in March, 1943, received his commission a year ago, and went overseas six months ago. He flew his first mission on "D-Day" and was recently awarded the Air Medal. His wife, Mrs. Bernice Fields Livingston, also formerly worked in M-G-M's publicity department here.

Curtiz, Schwartz Due

Michael Curtiz, Warner director, and Arthur Schwartz, producer, will arrive in New York from California this week for conferences with Cole Porter. Warner Bros. is making a film based on the composer's life. Script writers Charles Hoffman and Leo Townsend are accompanying Curtiz and Schwartz. Cary Grant has been signed to portray Porter on the screen.

Luncheon for Spitz,Goetz

G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, due to return from California this week, will be host to Leo Spitz and William Goetz of International Pictures at a luncheon at the Music Hall's studio apartment Friday. Among those also invited are Ned E. Depinet, Robert and Leonard Goldstein, Russell V. Downing, Fred L. Lynch, Russell Markert and Leon Leonidoff. Seitz and Goetz arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

Big $27,500 for 'Wilson' in Capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—All downtown houses, with but two exceptions, are doing repeats this week. "Wilson," in its third week at Loew's Capitol, should do a bang-up $27,500. "The Impatient Years," at Warner's Earle, with "The Battle for the Mariannas" shows a possible gross of $23,500, while the other newcomer, "Since You Went Away," is headed for a smash $24,000 at Loew's Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending September 28:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. On stage: Evelyn Tiner. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $22,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,200).
"Battle for the Mariannas" (WB)
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
WARNER'S EARLE (2,210) (44c-55c-85c-$1.10) 7 days. On stage: Bob Dupont, Roxyettes. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $19,700).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S (1,800) (35c-44c-65c-74c) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,600).
"Janie" (WB)
"Battle for the Mariannas" (WB)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,200).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (43c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,000).

'Hero' Top in Week of Baltimore Recovery

BALTIMORE, Sept. 25.—The first touch of Fall weather had a favorable effect on downtown theatre box offices. In the lead is "Hail the Conquering Hero," which is safe for $19,000 at the Stanley. "The Impatient Years," plus a stage show, is due for $18,500 at the Hippodrome. "Wilson" in its second week at the New also continues a leader.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 28:

"Summer Storm" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (76c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,000).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Stage show: Three Sailors, Bob Hopkins, The Whirlwinds, The Dwights, Dean Martin. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,500).
"Atlantic City" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,060) (35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

DeVry to Host Delegates

CHICAGO, Sept. 25.—DeVry Corp. will maintain downtown headquarters at the Bismarck Hotel during the Theatre Equipment Dealers' Protective Association convention here Oct. 6-8 in order that convention delegates may arrange to see its recently remodeled plant.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

THE $4,667,520.00 WALLOP!

A Trailer Collects $4,667,520.00

This amount was collected in theatres during the March of Dimes Week 1944 . . . This shatters every record . . . of every drive . . . of every kind . . . ever heretofore attempted . . . By comparison with other public collection efforts . . . this figure is simply amazing . . . It stands supremely alone.

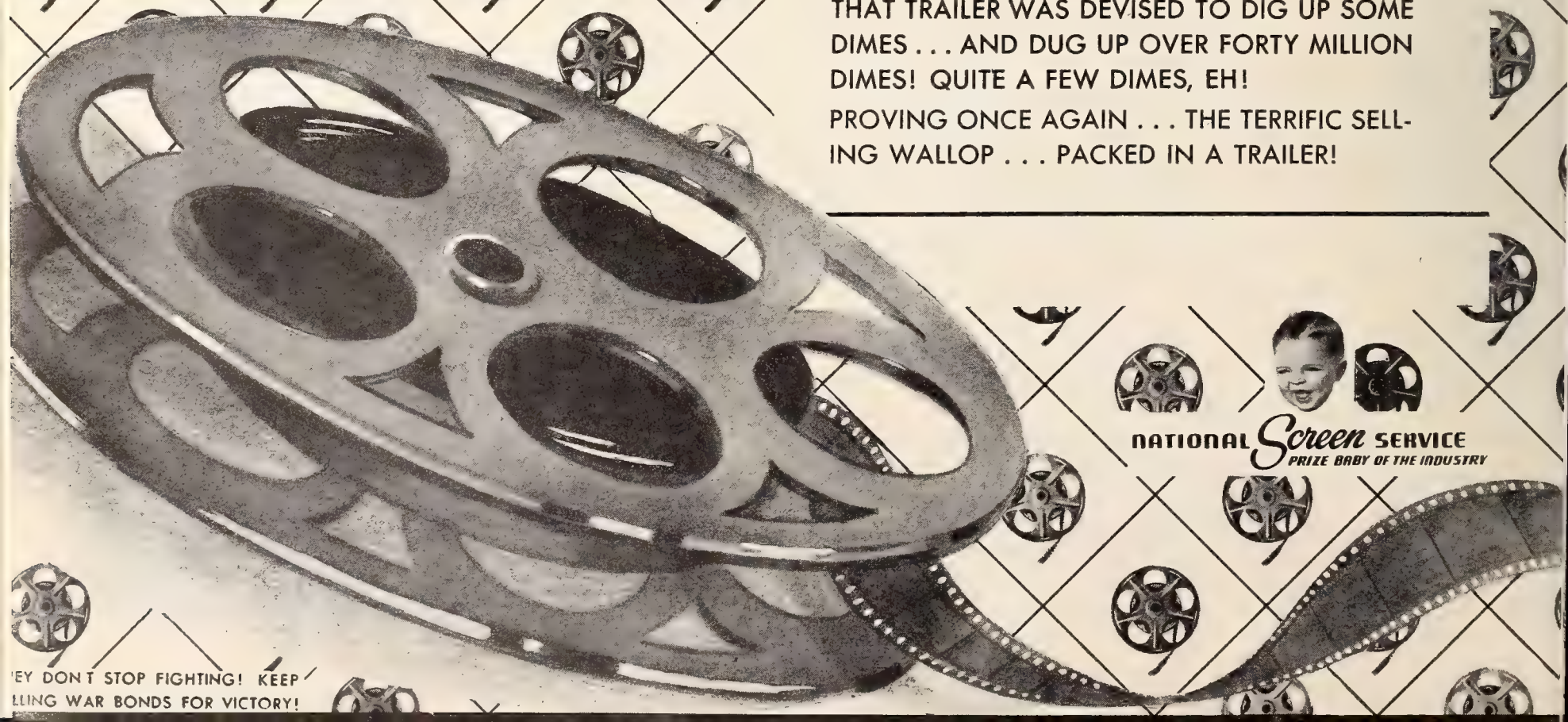
The principal advertising device used in the theatres to sell this collection . . . was a TRAILER . . . Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer made it . . . and Miss Greer Garson was its central figure.

Our hat is off to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer . . . their lovely Miss Garson . . . Frank Whitbeck, whose inspiration and supervision produced so glorious a result . . . and everybody connected with that wonderful TRAILER.

It did a swell job . . . It delivered . . . It made people dig into their pockets . . . and roll up the biggest pile of money ever collected in any similar attempt. We are mighty proud of our humble part in that TRAILER too—for we distributed it!

THAT TRAILER WAS DEVISED TO DIG UP SOME DIMES . . . AND DUG UP OVER FORTY MILLION DIMES! QUITE A FEW DIMES, EH!

PROVING ONCE AGAIN . . . THE TERRIFIC SELLING WALLOP . . . PACKED IN A TRAILER!



NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

'EY DON'T STOP FIGHTING! KEEP
LLING WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 61 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1944 TEN CENTS

14,240 Theatre Events Sold Bonds for 5th

Gamble Lauds Industry's Bond Sales of Millions

The industry staged 14,240 bond selling events and sold millions of dollars in "E" bonds during the Fifth War Loan drive, in addition to numerous other activities in support of the drive, Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, announced yesterday in acknowledging receipt of the final report from the War Activities Committee, on the industry's participation in the drive. R. J. O'Donnell, industry national chairman for the the Fifth, presented the report.

Gamble said the industry's campaign embraced a five-point plan which included: full strength distributor mobilization, much greater exhibitor participation, a more generous small town premiere policy, better practical selling aids, and a 19-city Coast-to-Coast tour.

In collaboration with producer-dis-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Drop 'Locally Needed' Plans

Further efforts of the distributors' division of the War Activities Committee to secure "locally needed" designations for film exchanges have been abandoned, it was learned here yesterday. The distributors have also dropped plans to seek manpower relief through the WMC in Washington through briefs citing manpower needs of exchanges.

The WMC has withdrawn the "locally needed" designation which had previously been given to exchanges in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, it was

(*Continued on page 7*)

U. S. Files Objection To Schine's Sale of 4

BUFFALO, Sept. 26.—For the record, the Schine anti-trust trial resumed here this morning. Actually, however, calling of Government witnesses will not get under way until next Monday.

Today was spent almost in its entirety in marking for identification and admitting into the record hundreds of letter-agreements between Schine and various distributors, originals and

(*Continued on page 7*)

WMC Ends Controls On Hiring Veterans

Washington, Sept. 26.—Veterans of World War II were tonight released from all War Manpower Commission controls on employment, and were given complete freedom to take any employment they choose without regard to referral or other regulations. Veterans, both men and women, discharged from any of the military services, also may be hired by any employer without referral to the U. S. Employment Service.

Supreme Court to Hear Three Cases Involving Industry

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—Only three cases of interest to the industry are among the 500 appeals which will come before the Supreme Court when it meets next Monday for its 1944-45 term. Two of these are holdovers from the last term, only one having been filed since the court adjourned last June.

The most important of the film cases is that involving the cross-appeal of the Government and Crescent Amusement Co. from the May 17, 1943, decision of the Federal District

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hirliman to Enter Video; His Duties Go to Goldhammer

George A. Hirliman is relinquishing the presidency of Film Classics and forming "the first manufacturer-distributor organization in the 16mm industry," International Theatrical and Television Corp. in association with a group headed by Eliot Hyman, president of Microstat Corp., Hirliman announced here yesterday. He said the company contemplates a capital basis of $1,000,000 in common stock and $5,000,000 in preferred.

Hirliman will divest himself gradually of his interests in Film Classics and is turning over his duties there to L. E. Goldhammer, general sales

(*Continued on page 6*)

Cuban Government Decorates Warners

The Cuban Government yesterday conferred the Order of Carlos Manuel des Cespedes, on Harry, Jack and Major Albert Warner, in recognition of "meritorious and beneficial service" rendered to that Republic over a period of years.

The presentations were made to Harry and Major Albert at the home office, with Dr. Pedro Saavedra, secretary of the Cuban Embassy in Washington; Robert Hernandez,

(*Continued on page 6*)

$6,793,000 to Red Cross, All-Time High: Bernhard

Collections and contributions of $6,793,060, "surpassing every charitable endeavor in the history of the industry," was announced here yesterday by Joseph Bernhard, chairman, for the industry's 1944 Red Cross Drive. Collections from 13,438 theatres totaled $5,501,450, corporate gifts were $738,848, and Hollywood contributions totaled $552,760.



Joseph Bernhard

"The prodigious effort put forward by the industry in this

(*Continued on page 7*)

OWI Warns of Long War Against Japan

Washington, Sept. 27.—Full return of the film and other industries to peace-time economy will not come for at least 18 months, and possibly much longer, after the defeat of Germany, it was indicated this morning by the Office of War Information. Eighteen months to two years is placed by the best military and civilian authorities as the absolute minimum within which Japan can be defeated, the OWI said, and "over-all military plans are based on the assumption that it may take years rather than months."

MGM Contract 'Streamlined', Reduced 40%

Arbitration Clause Is Out, Though Available

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer yesterday discarded what it described as its "wallpaper type" film exhibition contract, and supplanted it with a new, letter-size, "streamlined," simplified and clarified document, reduced some 40 per cent. Company attorneys had been working on the new contract for months.

Although the arbitration clause has been eliminated, M-G-M emphasized that arbitration will be made available to all exhibitors who desire it.

The optional arbitration clause has been eliminated, company attorneys explained, because the arbitration clause of the consent decree covers this subject and also because of the company policy of influencing theatre owners who have matters of arbitration to first discuss them with local M-G-M sales

(*Continued on page 7*)

Spitz, Goetz Set 4 to 6

International Pictures will produce from four to six films a year, with the initial four for 1945 budgeted for a total of $6,500,000, Leo Spitz, chairman of the board, and William Goetz, president and production head, revealed during a joint interview here yesterday. Releasing arrangements have not been set.

RKO Radio is distributing the first four pictures made by International, this year, and Spitz and Goetz said they are here, from Hollywood, to discuss with RKO foreign distribution for "Casanova Brown" and also

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schless Resigns as W.B. Foreign Head

Robert Schless, general foreign sales manager of Warner Bros. for the past five years and associated with the company's foreign department since 1925, announced his resignation here yesterday. Harry M. Warner, president, accept the resignation with regret.

Schless stated that he will reveal his future plans at an early date.

Personal Mention

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, left yesterday by *Clipper* for Rio de Janeiro on a four weeks' South American tour.

•

WILLIAM A. JOHNSTON, formerly publisher of *Motion Picture News*, is recovering at Los Angeles General Hospital from injuries received in an automobile accident. He will be discharged in about 10 days.

•

EDWARD K. O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, has left for New Orleans, where he will confer with C. J. BRIANT, M-G-M manager there, and LOUIS C. INGRAM, Memphis manager.

•

HARRY TAKIFF, assistant to JACK COHN at Columbia, will leave tomorrow for California accompanied by his wife and son, on his first vacation in three years.

•

MILT YOUNG, of Warner Bros. Theatres publicity department in Philadelphia, has been elected president of the Warner Club in that city.

•

CHARLES EINFELD, Warners' director of advertising-publicity, will return to the Coast studio tomorrow from a Coastwise business trip.

•

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity manager, will leave Hollywood on the Superchief today for New York.

•

LILI MESSENGER of M-G-M's studio story department is in New York from Hollywood. She will return to the Coast about Oct. 7.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN and RICHARD MEALAND, Paramount story-production executives, will leave Hollywood Saturday for New York.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, is expected here from Chicago tomorrow or Friday.

•

JOHN W. CONSIDINE, M-G-M production executive, is due back in Hollywood today after a brief visit in New York.

•

ROY HAINES, Warners Western and Southern division sales manager, is back in New York from a Midwest tour.

•

JACK SEGAL, Columbia assistant foreign manager, will return Monday from a two-week vacation.

•

GEORGE L. CARRINGTON, Altec president, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

SAM KESTENBAUM, Columbia exploiteer, returned here yesterday from Indianapolis.

•

HOWARD HERDY, M-G-M exploiteer in Los Angeles, will return from New York today.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Sept. 26

BECAUSE motion pictures serve all the people and exhibitors welcome an admission where they can find one, there is a school of thought which is disturbed when Hollywood invites itself into politics, or gets itself involved off the screen. A Democrat or a Republican reacts to the Grable outline or he does not, it is maintained, and how he votes bears no relation to an eye appreciative of curves. In that respect, these eyes are in accord.

Those enrolled in this school believe an entertainment business should entertain; that, because it is also sometimes viewed as a quasi public utility, the industry cannot afford to hitch its standard to a single political cause any more than radio, as an *industry* can. In that respect, we are also in hearty accord.

■

However, the right of a single individual to follow his political bent, of course, is not to be questioned. Louis B. Mayer is a Republican, but this suggests nothing regarding MGM as a company. Bette Davis spoke for the President last week in New York, but it obviously does not follow her professional associates at the Warner studio will not vote for Governor Dewey.

As with individuals, so with groups. It may be deplored by some who would wish it did not happen, yet it cannot prevent individuals who think identically from joining forces to further the candidate of their choosing.

Nevertheless, there is a responsibility in such action which cannot be denied, too. This responsibility was flaunted, through whatever reason, with the organization of a group of men and women in production merely as "Hollywood-for-Dewey."

■

Its bid for additional campaign workers was sub-captioned, "National Headquarters for the Motion Picture Industry", followed by a local address.

But, further. This is how its first formal pronouncement was handled:

" 'Hollywood-for-Dewey'.

"With that slogan, the motion picture industry's actors, writers, technicians, producers and members of the arts, crafts, guilds and unions have mobilized as an active political force in the national Presidential campaign."

Considerable area was covered in that one paragraph.

Those who think and reflect will understand this is a political committee. The uncertainty, however, enters with those who do not think and reflect, but accept what they read, hear, or are told. It must be remembered full well that around the country Hollywood is synonymous with the industry; certainly, that Hollywood is synonymous with "the movies". The impression which is in danger of being established, consequently, is that Hollywood —or "the movies"—is solidly for Dewey.

■

The fact is self-evident many here and elsewhere throughout the business are for the Republican nominee. No one challenges that. But this is a challange to the looseness with which the sponsors of this group have identified a whole division of the industry, if not all of it, in the public mind. Consciously, or carelessly, this development has about it another manifestation of that tendency, common to the production community, enthusiastically to deliver the works. The point is these works cannot be delivered.

■

One more observation to maintain the outburst on nonpartisan lines: Were another group identifying itself merely as "Hollywood - for - Roosevelt" to show on the scene, the challenge similarly would hold.

■ ■

Mervyn Le Roy's directorial record at Metro rated very high. The probability was he could have made almost any kind of deal he desired. But there was one he could not. He wanted participation. No dice.

No dice because Metro management had to look beyond him and anticipate the look on the faces of other directors and the battery of producers. An avenue newly opened for Le Roy could branch into other boulevards and even express highways.

Evidently, Metro is not interested in that form of Culver City planning.

■ ■

Excited film man:

"We've taken Brest."

Unexcited film man: "What of it? Didn't Goldwyn take Reno?"

Tax Relief Denied On 'Profits Cycle'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—A tentative determination holding that the film producing and theatre industries may not apply for relief from the excess profits tax on the basis of a profits cycle differing materially in length and amplitude from the general business cycle, has been reached by the Internal Revenue Bureau in course of its studies of the pro[illegible] cycles of some 70 industrial groups. It was pointed out, however, that the section of the Revenue Act of 1943 dealing with relief from the excess profits tax provides other bases on which applications for relief may be submitted.

When the classification is completed, taxpayers will know whether their particular industry will be regarded by the Bureau as having been in such a condition during the 1936-'39 base years as to entitle them to relief on grounds of the profits cycle provisions. The two branches of the industry were among 34 groups for which this basis has been ruled out because "the evidence now before the Bureau indicates that it is unlikely that an industry included in these groups has a profits cycle that might qualify taxpayers belonging to that industry for relief from excess profits taxes."

Pledge 25% of SPG Back Pay for Bonds

Membership of the Screen Publicists Guild of New York has pledged to invest in War Bonds 25 per cent of the retroactive pay which will be distributed to about 280 members around Oct. 6 by film companies here as a result of the War Labor Board's approval of an arbitration award in a recent contract dispute.

After deduction of Federal taxes and an assessment of 25 per cent levied by SPG on the first 52 weeks of retroactive wage increases for expenses incurred in the dispute, some members will receive about $500, it is estimated. Increases are retroactive to May, 1943 in most cases.

At an SPG meeting held here this week, J. Albert Hirsch, United Artists publicist, was elected secretary. He defeated Roger Lewis, 20th Century-Fox, and succeeds Gertrude Gelbin, who has left the industry.

Montreal Theatres' Lights 'On Again'

MONTREAL, Sept. 26.—Without normal marquee lighting since the Summer of 1942, exhibitors in metropolitan Montreal may throw as much light on their theatre fronts as they wish commencing Oct. 1, in view of the easing of electric power restrictions announced from Ottawa last night. The power restrictions were designed to conserve electric energy for war industries on the Eastern Canadian seaboard.

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Mary **LEE**
Ruth **TERRY**
Cheryl **WALKER**



WILLIAM TERRY and
CHERYL WALKER

Sweethearts of

STAGE DOOR CANTEEN

together again

in



3 LITTLE SISTERS

JACKIE MORAN • CHARLES ARNT
• FRANK JENKS •
WILLIAM SHIRLEY

JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director
Original Story by Maurice Clark • Olive Cooper
Screenplay by Olive Cooper

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Sept. 26

ONE of those tug-o'-war types of conflicts that make much news and usually wind up with both sides claiming a victory, moral or monetary, loomed in the case of a picture—or two pictures—to be based on the life and works of the late, great Mother Cabrini, candidate for canonization by the Catholic church. But Bing Crosby Productions has abandoned its plans to produce a feature based on the life of Mother Cabrini, due to PRC's prior claim to the subject as a Martin Mooney production.

Mooney's announcement of his Mother Cabrini picture followed shortly upon the premiering and acclaiming of "The Song of Bernadette," first film of its kind in years to enjoy the reception it got.

Crosby Productions' announcement followed upon the premiering, acclaiming and prodigious prospering of "Going My Way."

•

Alexis Thurn-Taxis has signed a three-film producer-director deal with Columbia. His first will be "Girl of the Limberlost." Formerly active in the European industry, he joined Universal here in 1937 as a director. . . . RKO has bought "That Man Alone," an original about returning veterans and assigned John Wayne to a starring role; Robert Fellows will produce. . . . Universal has elevated Phil Cahn, who has been with the studio since 1924 as film editor, to an associate producership. . . .

•

Leon Fromkess has purchased the film rights to Russell Birdwell's book, "I Ring Doorbells," about his newspaper experiences, and has assigned Martin Mooney to act as associate producer on the picture to be made from it. The acquisition followed by a week PRC's retention of Birdwell to handle a special exploitation and publicity campaign for the company's "When the Lights Go On Again." . . . M-G-M has acquired "Death in the Doll House," a mystery by Lawrence Bachmann and Hannah Less, and has assigned Robert Sisk to produce.

•

Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten have been borrowed from David Selznick by Paramount to play the leads in "The Love Letters," first of the Hal Wallis productions for that company . . . RKO Radio has signed George Holmes, Arizona State football star, to a term contract with the intention of developing him for stardom. Brought to Hollywood originally by Jesse Lasky, Holmes interrupted his career to do some fighting for Uncle Sam and is back in "civvies" now

•

Universal has added "The Cat Creeps," a mystery-melodrama, to its schedule and assigned Ford Beebe as producer. . . . 20th-Fox has renewed Elia Kazan's contract for one year. He will do one picture. . . . Warners has assigned Humphrey Bogart to co-star with Bette Davis in "Ethan Frome."

Wanger Seeks to Clarify Relation with V-D Film

In MOTION PICTURE DAILY of June 19th, there appeared a Washington date-line news story dealing with the subject, "To the People of the United States." This subject was produced as a public service by Walter Wanger at the request of the United States Public Health Service and the California State Department of Health. The script was prepared and supervised by the staff of the United States Surgeon General.

At the request of the Office of War Information the film, which deals with the subject of venereal disease, was scheduled for theatre release through the War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry. Following this action, a protest was made to the OWI by the National Legion of Decency. The OWI held up release of the film through WAC and referred the question to the United States Public Health Service. The Public Health Service consulted its Advisory Committee, which recommended "that the Surgeon General not exercise his rights" with reference to the use of the film in commercial picture houses.

Excerpts from Story

Pertinent paragraphs of the news story of June 19th read as follows: "The approving groups recommended that official health agencies use the commercial theatres wherever they can for pictures of a scientific, documentary type, but held that the Walter Wanger picture, 'To the People of the United States', which aroused the opposition of the Legion of Decency and led to the inquiry by the U. S. Public Health Service on which the report is based, was not suitable for theatre distribution. The Wanger picture was condemned on the ground that it was inadequate and covered only one phase of the problem.

"Officials of the Public Health Service are understood to be in agreement with this viewpoint, and to consider far more effective the 16mm film produced by the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences."

Mr. Wanger has expressed the view that this news report was misleading and inaccurate. Pursuant to this view, he submitted the article to Surgeon General Thomas Parran, of the Health Service. Dr. Parran's reply under date of August 3, as supplied by Mr. Wanger for publication, is as follows:

"This will acknowledge your letter of July 19th enclosing a copy of an article which appeared in the MOTION PICTURE DAILY of June 19, 1944. The United States Public Health Service has officially sponsored, and continues to sponsor, the distribution and use of the film, 'To the People of the United States', through release to State departments of health and municipal health authorities. There are enclosed copies of letters from the Chief of the Division of Public Health Methods, under date of June 24th and July 3rd which indicate the nature of such distribution.

Dr. Parran's Letter

"The Advisory Committee on Public Education for the Prevention of Venereal Diseases met in Washington on April 26th and 27th and adhered to a recommendation previously made to me by action, as follows:

'The Committee recommends that the Surgeon General not exercise his rights with reference to the use of the Walter Wanger film, 'To the People of the United States', in commercial picture houses.'

"Pursuant to the recommendations of the Committee, the Public Health Service has not promoted the use of this film in commercial theatres on a nation-wide scale. However, following a long established film distribution procedure of the Service, this film has been made available through State and local health authorities for use in commercial theatres and elsewhere on a local or State-wide basis.

"The above statements indicate the official status of this matter. It would, of course, not be proper for me, even if it were possible to do so, to advise you as to any opinion which particular officials of the Public Health Service may have as individuals with respect to a particular point of view appearing in an article such as that in the MOTION PICTURE DAILY."

'My Way' on Top for 4th Straight Week

TORONTO, Sept. 26.—"Going My Way" was riding along to a $13,800 gross for the fourth week at Shea's Theatre, occupying top place for the fourth successive time. The Imperial Theatre had a $13,300 gross in sight on "The Adventures of Mark Twain."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 28:

"Address Unknown" (Col.)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000).
"The Adventures of Mark Twain" (WB)
IMPERIAL — (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,800).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $11,800).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $12,800).
"Address Unknown" (Col.)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $4,400).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Pardon My Rhythm" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,800).

Mexicans Only on Producing Boards

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 26.—The federal government is understood to be considering passage of a new decree which would make it mandatory for every producing company operating in this country to have all members of administrative boards Mexican by birth, and legislation to this end is expected to be introduced in the new Mexican congress.

Whether such an order would apply to American producing companies operating in Mexico as distributors was not disclosed, but it appears that it would apply to American companies actually producing in this country. Several Hollywood studios are contemplating Mexican production.

Wm. Pierce Joins Cowan

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 26.—William Pierce, Jr., has joined Lester Cowan Prod. as director of advertising and publicity, it was announced today.

'7th Cross' Leads In Philadelphia; Holdovers Strong

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 26.—Business in the mid-city theatres is good, with holdovers predominating. "The Seventh Cross," at the Boyd, the major new opening, points to a $29,500 gross. "Wilson" is still going strong with $41,000 indicated for a third week, for the dual showing at the Aldine and Earle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27-29:

'Wilson" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE — (900) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $14,600).
'Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA — (600) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,100. (Average: $4,000).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
BOYD — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $29,500. (Average: $18,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
EARLE — (3,000) (40c-55c-60c-85c-$1.20) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,200. (Average: $27,600).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,500).
'Summer Storm" (UA)
KARLTON — (1,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $7,700. (Average: $6,600).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $22,500).
"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
STANLEY — (3,000) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000).
"Barbary Coast Gent" (M-G-M)
STANTON — (1,700) (40c-45c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,400).

$39,000 for 'SYWA' $19,000 Over Par

CINCINNATI, Sept. 26.—"Since You Went Away," playing RKO's Albee and Grand, the first time this has been done locally, is zooming through to a combined record gross of $39,000, up $19,000 on the averages of the two houses. "Gypsy Wildcat" will give RKO's Palace an estimated $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27-30:

"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO ALBEE — (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO CAPITOL — (2,000) (40c-55c-76c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: at 44c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000).
"Cry of the Werewolf" (Col.)
'Soul of the Monster" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,060) (30c-40c) 4 days.
"Henry Aldrich's Secret" (Para.)
"Land of the Outlaws" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average: $800).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
RKO GRAND — (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $6,500).
'I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Are These My Parents?" (Mono.)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
RKO LYRIC —(1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Gypsy Wildcat" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500).
"The Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000).

Word Got Around On 'Going My Way'

The generally accepted premise that Paramount's "Going My Way" made an unobtrusive world debut at the New York Paramount Theatre May 3, is discounted by surveys made by George H. Gallup's Audience Research on the film before it opened, it has now been disclosed. Audience Research uses a cross section sampling of some 50,000,000 theatre patrons in the United States.

According to figures derived for the week of April 29, before any of the nation's theatre patrons had seen the film, 16 per cent of the 50,000,000, or an estimated 8,000,000 people, knew something about the film and 80 per cent, or approximately 40,000,000, expressed a desire to see "Way" on learning of the star and story. Before the film opened in New York 33 per cent of New York City theatregoers knew something about the film, the survey showed.

As of the week of May 6, three days after the New York opening, 27 per cent of the 50,000,000 covered by the national survey, knew about "Way" and 60 per cent of New York's theatregoers had heard of it. According to the last estimates made by Audience Research, during the week of July 29, 60 per cent of the 50,000,000 knew about the film, 76 per cent of the New York theatregoers knew about it, and 82 per cent of the nation's 50,000,000 regular patrons used in Audience Research sampling wanted to see the film, after being told about it.

Educational Units Organize Here

Educational Film Producers Association, New York, has been formed "to advance educational motion pictures, to promote their production and distribution and to provide a clearing house for information pertaining to educational films," according to an organization announcement yesterday.

Officers are: President, Fletcher Smith, Fletcher Smith Studios; vice-president; Max Lasky, Films of Industry; secretary, John Flory of Grant, Flory and Williams; treasurer, Elda Hartley, Hartley Productions; chairman of the executive committee, Emerson Yorke, Emerson Yorke Studio. In addition, charter members include: Julien Bryan, Herbert Kerkow, John McCrory, Clarence Schmidt, Ralph Schoolman, C. O. Welch, and Elizabeth Harding.

N. J. Allied Will Elect and Install

The first Fall luncheon-meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, South Jersey unit, will be held at the Walt Whitman Hotel, Camden, on Monday. Mrs. Helen Hildinger and Si Meyers, new co-chairmen, will be installed, and new committees will be appointed. Harry H. Lowenstein, New Jersey Allied president, and E. Thornton Kelley will attend.

To Build New Theatre

OAKLAND, Cal., Sept. 26.—John Peters, pioneer exhibitor of Northern California, has acquired a site in Los Banos, Cal., where he will erect a theatre seating 900. Peters also owns and operates the Del Rio here.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING BUT THE NEWS



"FRENCHMAN'S CREEK" NOW ESTABLISHED IN PHENOMENAL HIT CLASS AS FIRST WEEK, JUST ENDED, SETS NEW HIGH MARK IN 27-YEAR HISTORY OF N.Y.RIVOLI. AFTER BREAKING OPENING-DAY HOUSE RECORD, "FRENCHMAN" DIPPED LESS THAN 5% THE NEXT DAY TO SET NEW SECOND-DAY RECORD, THEN STARTED CLIMBING TO TOP "WASSELL'S" FIRST SATURDAY BY AN AMAZING 140%, AND PASSED "WASSELL'S" FULL-WEEK GROSS BY 20% IN FIRST FIVE DAYS!

Training Film Fate Is Up to 'GI Joes'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—The post-war reconversion period may offer the decisive test of the industry-training film—a large number of which have been produced for the war by the industry in Hollywood—and, "if this method of instruction stands the test of helping put 'Gi Joe' back on the assembly lines in private industry as a well-adjusted, highly efficient operator, it may well find for itself a permanent place in business programs in the United States," it has been declared here by Dorothy V. Knibb of the industrial projects unit of the Department of Commerce.

Pointing out that before the war only a few companies used training pictures at all and many of them for advertising purposes only, Miss Knibb said that by June of this year the number of concerns using such films had reached 5,000. Of equal importance was the use of training films in the Army, which reduced the length of training periods from 20 to 40 percent as compared with the last war. In June, Army training films and film bulletins were being shown 200,000 times a month to soldier audiences in this country estimated to aggregate 23,000,000.

'Impatient', 'Kitty' Gross Big $30,275

DENVER, Sept. 26.—"Impatient Years" and "Kansas City Kitty" at the Denver and Esquire theatres were tops this week hitting $22,500 at the Denver and $7,875 at the Esquire.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 25-28:

"Wilson" (20th Fox)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (76c-$1.12) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $5,600).
"Cassanova Brown" (RKO)
"The Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $4,875. (Average: $3,900).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (35c-45c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
DENVER—(2,600) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Kansas City Kitty" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,875. (Average: $4,500).
"The Hairy Ape" (UA)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT—(35c-45c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $11,625. (Average: $9,300).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
RIALTO—(900) (35c-45c-74c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

Notables to Attend 'Wilson' in Boston

BOSTON, Sept. 26.—The New England premiere of "Wilson" will take place at the RKO-Boston, Thursday night, before an audience including Gov. and Mrs. Leverett Saltonstall, Mayor and Mrs. Maurice J. Tobin, John F. Fitzgerald, former Mayor of Boston, Charles F. Hurley, former Governor of Massachusetts, and others. Leading exhibitors will be guests of 20th-Fox district manager Edward X. Callahan and branch manager M. H. Grassgreen.

Following appearances at veterans' hospitals, canteens, press receptions and radio stations, Carole Landis, Dana Andrews, Roddy McDowall and Trudy Marshall, with George Jessel as master of ceremonies, will attend the "Wilson" opening.

Spitz, Goetz Set 4 to 6

(Continued from page 1)

plan for the release of "The Woman in the Window," featuring Edward G. Robinson and Joan Bennett which has been set for Nov. 1. Spitz predicted that "Casanova Brown" will gross an estimated $3,500,000 in the domestic market alone on the basis of early returns.

He denied that he and Goetz are here to discuss a new distribution deal with RKO for pictures beyond the original four, including, besides "Casanova Brown" and "The Woman in the Window," "Belle of the Yukon" and "It's a Pleasure," all of which are completed. He admitted that RKO executives might "care to discuss" further distribution of International films beyond the original four, but he said he had no definite plans.

No Buying In

Spitz also discounted the possibility of International acquiring a financial interest in one of the large film companies. It has been variously reported that Spitz and Goetz might purchase an interest in RKO.

International will start production around Nov. 1, Goetz said, on "American Cowboy," to be produced by Gary Cooper and will place "Tomorrow Is Forever" in production around Jan. 1. A second Cooper film will go into production next Summer and a second Sonja Henie picture in May. Present producers for International are: Nunnally Johnson, David Lewis and Cooper, with Goetz supervising production.

Spitz foresees a dip in theatre grosses during the reconversion period. He feels that some independent production in Hollywood will slacken by next year, making more studio space available for those independents who continue. Spitz and Goetz will return to California tomorrow.

Sherwood Quits OWI, Barrett Succeeds

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26.—No changes in policies or activities of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information will result from the resignation of Robert E. Sherwood as director and the appointment of executive director Edward W. Barrett, to succeed him, OWI officials here said today.

Sherwood's resignation was announced last night by OWI director Elmer Davis who disclosed that the Overseas Branch head was quitting to campaign for Roosevelt.

In a report to Davis, Sherwood said that OWI motion pictures now are being shown in theatres in "every accessible part of the world and it has been proven that 'psychological warfare' is a potent factor in helping to win the war."

Studio Tax Squad Named

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 26.—Harry C. Westover, Los Angeles Collector of Internal Revenue, has appointed a special three-man "squad" to handle Federal tax cases and problems of studios and personnel. The squad, which Westover indicated may be expanded later, will confine its activities to studio executives, personnel, agents and business managers.

14,240 Events in 5th War Loan Sold Millions in Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

tributors, 5,059 "War Bond Premieres" and 1,131 special "Children's Premieres" were staged and 8,059 "Free Movie Days" were presented. In each of the instances, admission to theatres was obtained through the purchase of a bond.

Gamble, acknowledging O'Donnell's report, complimented the industry for its campaign and expressed appreciation of the Treasury Department. "We in the War Finance Division have been amazed by the ability of the industry, in the light of its complete support since the beginning of the war, to move forward and improve its campaigns.

O'Donnell said the 16,000 showmen of America who were on the "firing line" were responsible. He also singled out the distributor division, under Ned E. Depinet, which mobilized film salesmen for their efforts, and War Finance committeemen who aided the industry effort. The Hollywood Victory Committee was also lauded for providing stars for bond shows, rallies, radio programs and transcriptions. Praised also was the newsreel division contribution.

The trade press cooperation, which O'Donnell regarded as "the biggest single contribution to the campaign," was lauded, likewise the daily press and radio cooperation.

Employe Clubs' Bond Total: $1,846,164

Fifth War Loan bond sales to "motion picture clubs" of employes of 10 film companies here totaled $1,846,164, according to the Treasury's War Finance Committee here.

The purchases, which were over and above those made under the payroll deduction plan, follow: Columbia, $285,106; Loew's, $473,896; Paramount, $254,289; PRC, $8,700; RKO, $112,013; Republic, $17,841; 20th Century-Fox, $305,144; United Artists, $58,249; Universal, $156,250, and Warners, $174,673.

Citations have been presented to each by John Whitney Richmond, deputy manager of the committee, who reported that all quotas were met and that the sales were larger than in any previous campaign.

Fifth Loan Award

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 26.—Harry Crawford, manager of the Missouri Theatre here, is 'group one' winner of a special award for showmen in a Fifth War Loan Drive contest sponsored by the St. Louis War Activities Committee, with Anthony Peluso, Fox Theatre manager, taking second place.

Other winners include: Joseph Goldstein, Victory Theatre; Robert Johnson, former manager of the Tivoli and now with Fanchon and Marco; George Riegel, Florissant Theatre; Jack Rosenweig, Manchester Theatre; Irving Wenzel, Lafayette Theatre; Octavia Wheeler, Richmond. Special scrolls for 'E' bond sales went to Al Wheeler, Ambassador Theatre, and Thomas James, Comet Theatre.

Eddie Bonns to UA

ATLANTA, Sept. 26.—Eddie Bonns, exploiteer formerly with the Universal exchange here, has joined the United Artists field staff.

Baily and Emanuel On 6th War Drive

Tom Baily, executive director of the California Theatre Council, Hollywood, and Jay Emanuel, Philadelphia exhibitor and publisher, were designated yesterday as industry-Treasury Department liaison, and administrative official, respectively, for the Sixth War Loan drive.

Baily, who is also associate coordinator with John C. Flinn of the War Activities Committee, Hollywood division, will make his headquarters in Washington with Ted R. Gamble, national War Finance director. He plans to leave Hollywood Oct. 5 for Washington. Emanuel is due in New York on Oct. 2, and will make his headquarters here during the drive.

W. F. Crockett, independent exhibitor and one of the nine co-chairmen for the Sixth drive, reported to committee headquarters here yesterday to line up his activities for the campaign. After conferring with officials here, he will leave for Virginia tomorrow, returning to New York next week.

Hertz Names Youngstein To Buchanan Bond Post

Max Youngstein, industrial publicist, has joined Buchanan & Co. He will act as co-ordinator of the Sixth War Loan drive activities at Buchanan, under supervision of John Hertz, Jr., national publicity director for the drive.

Prior to joining Buchanan, Youngstein was associated with 20th Century-Fox where he handled exploitation on "Wilson" and was assistant to Hal Horne, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity chief.

Youngstein is now at the Buchanan office here, working in co-operation with William Dasheff, assistant to Hertz, and Sumer Singer.

Edwin Burke, 55, Film Writer, Dies

Edwin Burke, 55, playwright, director and screen writer for many of Will Rogers' first features for Fox Film, died here yesterday after a six week's illness at Post-Graduate Hospital. He was unmarried and is survived by a niece.

Burke, born in Albany, N. Y., attended Normal College there and entered the theatre as a Shakespearean actor. He wrote two plays for the theatre, "This Thing Called Love," produced by Patterson McNutt, and "The White Man." In 1929 he joined Fox to write and in 1934 he wrote and directed for that studio, continuing for several years as a writer. He wrote or collaborated on screen plays for "Bright Eyes," "One More Spring," "The Farmer Takes a Wife," "The Littlest Rebel," and others.

Shulman Plans Drive-In

CLEVELAND, Sept. 26.—Jack Shulman, theatre operator here, has purchased property to build a 550-car Drive-In Theatre in Mentor Township.

Lippert, David Will Make Four Films

Robert L. Lippert, California operator of 23 theatres and San Francisco franchise holder of Film Classics, has formed Action Pictures, Inc., in conjunction with William B. David, general manager of California Redwood Theatres, for production of a minimum of four action features to be filmed in color, Lippert announced here yesterday in an interview. Robert Tansey will produce and direct.

Although release has not yet been set, Lippert said, actual shooting of the first film has already started. Titled "Wildfire, the Story of a Horse," it features Eddie Deane, radio singer; Bob Steele, Sterling Holloway, John Miljan and Virginia Maples, the latter on loan from 20th-Fox. Film Classics may release the four, in which Cinecolor also has an interest.

At the same time, Lippert revealed that he had settled his anti-trust suit against Fox West Coast for alleged monopoly of product by the circuit in Richmond, Cal.

Lippert has established a profit-sharing policy for his managers, resulting, he said, in unprecedented profits.

Hirliman to Enter Television Field

(Continued from page 1)

manager, and Al Crown, foreign sales manager, both of whom are also vice-presidents. MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported on March 16 that Hirliman was negotiating for disposal of his Film Classics stock.

Activities of Hirliman's new corporation will center around postwar expansion of the 16mm industry, eventually tying in television. His aim is to manufacture 16mm projector and television equipment in four models, ranging from home to auditorium sizes. Negotiations are on with General Aircraft Equipment Co. for the manufacture, and Circle Film Laboratories for film printing.

Headquarters will be at the present offices here of Microstat and Film Classics. Branch offices will be opened within the next few months, and territorial franchises, "throughout the world" will be available, with deals now pending in the United States, England and in several Latin American countries.

Cuban Government Decorates Warners

(Continued from page 1)

Cuban Consul General in New York; Dr. Juan B. Fonseca, president of the Ateneo Cubano and Peter Colli, general manager for Warners in Cuba, attending. Jack Warner, whose trip to New York has been delayed until next month, will receive his award on the Coast.

In conferring the honor, the Cuban Government cited evidences of the good-neighbor policy in various Warner pictures, as well as the company's efforts to promote a better understanding between Cuba and the United States.

Colli, who is a Cuban citizen with headquarters in Havana, was delegated by President Batista of Cuba to bring the awards to New York.

U. S. Objects to Schine's Recess Sale of 4 Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

copies of contracts and office correspondence and individual film licensing agreements covering exhibition of product in the many "Schine towns."

The court session opened late because of a lengthy pre-trial conference in Federal Judge John Knight's chambers regarding the recent sale of four theatres in Kentucky and Virginia by Schine to A. Charles Hayman of Niagara Falls, theatre operator and officer of the MPTO of New York.

The conference, attended by Robert L. Wright of the Justice Department, and Willard S. McKay, general Schine counsel, was reported to have been a heated one because of Wright's voiced objections to the Schine "deal" with Hayman. Wright is reported to have charged that Hayman is a friend of Schine's and that because of the relationship the latter obtained a greater amount of money for the theatres in question.

Decision Reserved

Judge Knight presided at the conference, listened to arguments from both sides and for the second time reserved decision. He announced he would either approve or disapprove the sale on Thursday or Friday of this week.

Meanwhile, it appeared that the balance of the current week will see only a continuation of today's procedure of admitting various documents into evidence.

M. K. Murphy, of Corbin, Ky., had sought to purchase two of the four theatres Schine has not sold to Hayman. Wright contended Murphy had preference, but McKay charged Murphy acted beyond a reasonable length of time. It was reported that during the conference, McKay revealed the purchase price of the four theatres sold to Hayman. The figures, however, were not made a part of the record.

Columbia Building Exchange in Canada

TORONTO, Sept. 26.—Columbia has awarded a $97,500 contract for erection of a two-story film exchange building at Carlton and Church streets here to Principal Investments, Ltd. Columbia will move from the Hermant Building at Dundas Square.

H. G. Duerr is architect of the structure, which will house the Columbia head office for Canada and the Ontario branch. Odeon Theatres of Canada, Empire, Universal and Warner Bros. all have sites for new fireproof buildings in the vicinity.

Two Killed in France

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 26. — Sgt. John K. Mullen, 23, former assistant manager of Warners' Ardmore here, has been reported killed in action in France. Sgt. Mullen, who has been in the Army two years, has been overseas since April. Also reported killed in France is Pfc Paul W. Winter, 28, formerly a local projectionist.

Supreme Court to Hear 3 Cases Involving Industry

(Continued from page 1)

Court at Nashville. Both sides recently filed their briefs in argument, the Department of Justice contending that the court did not go far enough and the defendants, Crescent and five related companies, attacking the provisions of the decree as unfair and improper, lacking a basis in evidence, and contrary to ordinary principles of equity jurisprudence.

The Department's brief, in effect, contended that the court should have gone all the way in ordering the relief which the Government sought, while the companies stressed the disadvantage at which the Crescent circuit would be placed by the requirements of the decree.

Crescent Up Early

The Crescent case, given a low number on the court's docket, may be reached for argument before the end of October.

The only motion picture case to reach the Court during the Summer involves an appeal by Walter Wanger Pictures, Inc., from a decision of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversing a judgment granted by the South California District court holding the company entitled to recovery of income tax on money paid toward settlement of a debt. The issue arose as a result of the severance of Jay Paley from the company and his demand for redemption of his stock, amounting to $350,000 and payment of a loan of $151,017. The company made an assignment of the earnings of the two pictures made while Paley was with it, "Private Worlds" and "The President Vanishes," and in 1936 and 1937 the pictures paid off $94,708 of the debt. The District court held the company entitled to a return of $25,737 undistributed profits taxes, plus interest, but the Circuit court reversed, holding that the written assignment failed to deal with and provide for the disposition of the earnings and profits of the company.

46th Street Appeal

The third case before the Court, also a holdover from the last term, is of interest to the industry from the fact that it deals with a problem of current importance. This is the appeal of the 46th Street Theatre Corp. from a New York supreme court decision in a suit brought for recovery of the $500 penalty fixed for violation of the state civil rights law by a Negro who was refused admission to a theatre after purchasing a ticket.

The company's defense was based largely upon the alleged discrimination of the law, which it pointed out applied to legitimate but not to motion picture theatres. The New York State Attorney General has filed a brief in *amicus curiae*, defending the law as written and emphasizing the many differences between the two types of theatres.

$6,793,000 from '44 Red Cross Drive

(Continued from page 1)

campaign," Bernhard pointed out, "is recorded in the tremendous increase over 1943, when total collections from all sources were $4,123,000." In theatres, 1944 collections almost doubled last year's $3,070,000. "Cost of the campaign was probably the lowest in the history of philanthropic drives —less than one and one-half per cent," it was disclosed.

The first ten highest exchange area totals follow: Metropolitan New York, $578,960; Philadelphia, $363,281; Los Angeles, $295,014; Dallas, $262,736; San Francisco, $261,790; Chicago, $256,509; Detroit, $238,418; Boston, $212,805; Cleveland, $181,678; Northern New Jersey, $174,259.

Enthusiasm and Devotion

"What cannot be measured in figures or in words," said Bernhard, "is the enthusiasm and devotion which made this result possible. In theatres, studios, home offices; among all suppliers and vendors; from the highest ranking employee to the lowest, there was a spontaneous response."

A report on participating theatres, committees and detailed figures has been compiled and is now being distributed to all committees and theatres.

The national executive staff of the campaign included, besides Bernhard, Harry Goldberg, campaign manager; Ned E. Depinet, distributor chairman; Herman Robbins, corporate gifts; Harry Brandt, field director; Charles A. Smakwitz, publicity director, and Louis R. Brager, campaign secretary.

St. L. Stage Hands Hearing Under Way

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 26.—One stagehand could serve several of the smaller St. Louis theatres adequately, managers of neighborhood houses testified today at the hearing before Jules E. Kohn, of Kansas City, Regional War Labor arbitrator, at the hearing on a contractual dispute between 16 local theatres and the International Association of Stagehands, Local No. 6. Wilbur Galanos, manager of the West End Theatre, testified that all work at that theatre could be done by one man in two hours a day. Mrs. Ellen Crane, manager of the Maffitt Theatre, told the arbitrator that one stagehand could do the work of eight theatres like hers, allowing a half-hour for transportation between theatres.

At Owners' Request

The hearings are being held at the request of the theatre owners, who ask that they not be required to employ stagehands for whom they have no need and that the workers they employ be required to work during hours when the theatres are closed so they can do stage maintenance work.

Yesterday Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, testified that the theatres are required to employ an "unjustifiable number" of stagehands. Lieut. Edward Arthur, a partner in the Shubert Theatre, in St. Louis on furlough, testified that the theatre employs many more stagehands than it needs and declared the men should not be permitted to put in "hours of idleness" when the country's manpower needs are critical.

MGM Contract 'Streamlined', Reduced 40%

(Continued from page 1)

representatives, and, if necessary, with sales organization heads. "This made the arbitration clause used so infrequently that it has been decided to drop it," said an M-G-M statement.

The new contract is 8½ inches wide and 12 inches long, compared to the old form of 9¼ inches wide and 19¼ inches long. M-G-M uses nearly 500,000 copies per season. All contract clauses have been removed from the face of the contract with the exception of the provision covering the use of trailers. The front side of the contract is now essentially confined to terms.

Seven Less Clauses

In the old form there were 28 clauses, the new pact contains only 21. Clause 1 contains all but two of the provisions of the old first and these two provisions are now covered in Clause 7. The new clause also contains what was formerly used in Clause 7 of the old form. Clause 2 of the new is the same as Clause 8 of the old; Clause 3 is the same; Clause 4 is a combination of 5 and 10 of the old form; Clause 5 combines 6 and most of 18; Clause 6 replaces 11 in the old; Clause 7 is a condensation of 12 in the old form, and Clause 8 replaces 9.

Clause 9 is a condensation of 13 in the old; Clause 10 is 15 in the old form, shortened; Clause 11 is a combination of 14 and 16; Clause 12 is the same as 17; Clause 13 is a condensation of 19; Clause 14 is a replacement for 21; Clause 15 is substantially the same as 22 in the old, and Clause 16 is virtually the same as Clause 23 in the old.

Clause 17 is about the same as 26; Clause 18 is the same as 27; Clause 19 is approximately the same as 24; Clause 20 is almost the same as 28, and Clause 21 briefly is the same as 25.

Abandon Pleas on 'Locally Needed'

(Continued from page 1)

announced here yesterday by the WAC.

Principal benefit of a "locally needed" designation was the requirement that an employe had to first secure a statement of availability upon leaving the industry before he could be hired elsewhere. Although it is not necessary now for an employe to secure a statement of availability from a distributor, one cannot secure a new position elsewhere without a referral from the WAC as a result of a ruling of last July 1. This, according to the WAC distributors' division, has generally resulted in exchange workers keeping their positions.

Odeon to Pay 20%

LONDON, Sept. 26.—Odeon Theatres, Ltd., headed by John Davis, has announced an ordinary share dividend of 20 per cent for this year, representing a five per cent increase over last year's dividend.



Official U. S. Navy Photograph

the war seems far away tonight . . .

SUPPOSE you were a young fighter in the South Pacific. At your age, you'd be spending a lot of time with a girl—if you were back home. But home is months and miles behind you—and you're sick to death of men and uniforms wherever you look . . .

And then a "live" show planes in—with girls—girls who've come all the way from home to smile at you, to talk to you, to sing and dance for you . . .

They're grand medicine for homesick boys, these lovely girls of screen and radio . . . so are the famous comedians, the vaudevillians, the dramatic actors, the dance bands, the concert stars . . .

Like all the rest of these entertainment folk, the movie men and women often give up a good deal to go. They travel and work themselves ragged. Many are often in danger. They are serving gallantly, and with great satisfaction . . . making one of the important contributions of the movies at war.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

One of a series of advertisements by KODAK testifying to the achievements of the movies at war



First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 62 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944 TEN CENTS

Armour Will Allocate Films For the Allies

OWI Post in Control in 'Eisenhower Area'

Reginald Armour, former RKO European manager, is expected to assume complete control of the allocation of all pictures of all Allied Nations to regular theatres in liberated areas of Europe which are under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Armour, now in New York, is awaiting transportation to Paris headquarters of the Office of War Information, Psychological Warfare Branch, which has charge of theatre distribution of Allied films.

Spiking the many and varied reports of Armour's appointment as a film representative of the State Department, or as the American industry's "ambassador" on the Continent, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned here yesterday that he will not be associated with either, that his post car-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Plans Complete for Variety Meeting

Plans for the Variety Clubs' national meeting at the Statler Hotel in Washington, Nov. 23-25, have been completed.

The principal discussion will center around the coordination of efforts of national and local Variety clubs with those of the industry's War Activities Committee. Following is the program: Thursday evening, Nov. 23, dinner and a meeting of national officers; Friday morning, registration and business meeting; Friday noon,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Films Wage-Hour Unit Is Dissolved

Dissolution of the industry committee for the finance, issuance, real estate, motion picture and miscellaneous industries, set up Sept. 22, 1943, by the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor, has been ordered by L. Metcalfe Walling, Wage-Hour Administrator. The committee was created under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 for the purpose of investigating conditions in the several industries and recommending minimum wage rates.

A considerable number of such

(*Continued on page 4*)

Promotion Step-up A Slump Antidote

"Exploitation methods going beyond the conventional should be applied in case of any let-down in attendance," William R. Ferguson, M-G-M exploitation director, advised in an interview here yesterday.

M-G-M has been sending research crews to subsequent-run situations to determine why pictures, "irrespective of source," had not reached all potential customers, with numerous trials producing the conclusion that inadequate exploitation was the fault, declared Ferguson.

First Runs to Taper Off First: Richey

Although independent exhibitors in the Midwest are not participating in the current "box office bonanza" to the same extent as first-run houses in that territory, still there is "a great deal of healthy optimism" prevailing there, according to H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head. Richey, in an interview with MOTION PICTURE DAILY, ascribed this sentiment to the feeling that if there is a tapering off in theatre business, it will be reflected principally in the first-runs, with a better degree of business going to the independents, or a tapering-off will be felt less by independents.

Rank Seeking Interest in Canada Chain

LONDON, Sept. 27.—John Davis, joint managing director of Odeon Theatres here, is scheduled to pay a return visit to Canada about mid-October during which he will endeavor to complete arrangements for the acquisition by J. Arthur Rank of an interest in a Canadian theatre circuit, it was learned here today.

It has been established that Davis, during his Canadian visit of the past Summer, discussed with officials of both Famous Players-Canadian and Odeon of Canada the possibility of Rank acquiring an interest in either circuit. His projected visit to Canada next month will be for the purpose of continuing and, possibly, finalizing those discussions.

AFM Drops Demand On Newsreel Music

James Petrillo and his American Federation of Musicians have abandoned efforts to force producers of newsreels to use freshly-recorded music, according to indications reported from the Coast and confirmed by newsreel spokesmen here.

The much-debated issue of fresh recordings, which are held by the companies to be impractical because of the haste in putting newsreels to-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Consent Decree Can't Be 'Patched,' Says MPTOA

Terming the industry consent decree "the climax of the negative approach" to the solution of trade problems and expressing "serious doubt" that it can "be patched up and made workable or of any real help in solving exhibitor problems," the MPTOA, in a bulletin signed by Ed Kuykendall, president, and released yesterday, says it will continue to press for those trade practice reforms which it advanced a year ago, "until better ones are proposed."

The bulletin says MPTOA's reforms are practical, constructive and not designed to injure or harass the business of any other part of the industry. By contrast, the bulletin says, reforms advanced by other sources more often than not are "negative, unworkable or destructive" and "promoted deliberately to damage or intimidate producers, to appease reformers, to make political capital or to arouse and inflame small exhibitors."

"Nearly always," the bulletin says, "these schemes originate with and are promoted by outsiders with no experience or investment in the business—lawyers, promoters, agitators and government agents."

In that category of reforms the bulletin names anti-block booking legislation, "from Brookhart to Neely"; past antidotes for blind selling; the old, compulsory arbitration; efforts to eliminate clearance; proposals for chain theatre taxation and "organized opposition" to local control of double features and giveaways. The bulletin cites them as examples of the "nega-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Quick Playoff Of Expensive Films Planned

Precaution Against 'V-Day' Boxoffice Drop

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 27.—With an inventory of from 60 to 80 high-cost features expected to be in the vaults of the 11 companies when the war ends in Europe, production and sales departments are understood to be currently giving attention to plans for a quick playoff of the most expensive pictures before employment and national income undergo any decline that might cut into the box-office potential.

On the basis of boxoffice scales and returns over the past two years, almost any picture, except the few that cost above $2,000,000, can get back its cost and some profit in six months or less, and it is generally believed that the public will have enough spending money in its pockets, in war bonds and in savings, to assure con-

(*Continued on page 4*)

All Hope for More Freon Abandoned

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—War Production Board officials disclosed tonight that they have abandoned all hope of relaxing the ban on the use of freon gas for air conditioning and now see no chance of such action for some time to come.

With the completion of new facilities which, together with existing plants, would produce approximately 5,500,000 pounds of freon monthly, it has been hoped that restrictions could be discontinued Sept. 30, it was ex-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Distributors Called In Schine Hearing

BUFFALO, Sept. 27.—Five distributor officials from New York tomorrow will take the stand in the Schine anti-trust trial to identify documents which have been subpoenaed from their files by the Government in connection with the prosecution.

The witnesses, all clients of attorney John F. Caskey, are: Felix A. Jenkins, secretary and former general attorney for 20th Century-Fox; Richard Morgan, Jr., assistant secretary of Paramount; William Zimmerman, as-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

RUBE JACKTER, assistant sales manager for Columbia, is in New Haven today.

•

CAPT. LEONARD D. LANGE, formerly of Warners' Sheridan Square Theatre in Pittsburgh, and now with the Army Air Forces in Italy, has been awarded the Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters.

•

E. S. GREGG, vice president of Western Electric Export Corp., has left for an inspection trip of company offices in the British Isles, to be gone six weeks.

•

CLARK GABLE is en route to Washington from Hollywood with a print of the film he recently completed for the Army.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern division manager, will leave today for a six week's tour of the Midwest.

•

ROSLYN NABER of the 20th Century-Fox home office plans to be married around Thanksgiving.

•

LOUIS NOVY, operator of the Austin, Texas, theatres of Interstate Circuit, is a New York visitor.

•

TED GALLANTER, M-G-M's Seattle publicity chief, has been in Chicago for medical treatment.

•

Postmaster General FRANK C. WALKER, has been in New York this week.

•

CASEY ROBINSON, M-G-M writer, is due here from Hollywood on Oct. 7.

Brandt Film Liaison On 'V-E Day' Plans

Harry Brandt, head of Brandt Theatres, is representing Broadway film houses on a committee called together by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia to make plans for handling Times Square on "V-E Day."

Brandt met this week at the Lambs Club with the Mayor and a number of legitimate theatre managers, who heard a proposal for staggering "curtain time" in order to keep from flooding the streets with people at the hour when most shows "break" somewhat simultaneously.

Requiem Mass Today For Mrs. Raftery

A solemn mass of requiem for Mrs. Marie A. Raftery, wife of Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, will be held at 11 o'clock this morning at the Church of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Forest Hills, L. I., with the Rev. Frank E. White as celebrant; Rev. Joseph McLaughlin, deacon, and Rev. Charles Curley, subdeacon.

Burial will be at St. John's Cemetery, Middle Village, L. I.

Rank Settles Pact Made by Deutsch

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Settlement of a high-court action between Odeon Theatres and Wilfred Phillips, nephew of the late Oscar Deutsch, which promised to be a long and bitterly contested case, was announced today at the end of two days of hearings.

Phillips had been appointed by Deutsch as booker for Odeon with a seven-year contract at approximately $8,500 annually. When J. Arthur Rank took control of Odeon, Phillips' salary was changed to $200 weekly, plus bonuses. Subsequently, as the result of differences which arose, Rank offered to settle the contract for $28,000, but the offer was refused and litigation begun. The settlement terms now are understood to have been slightly in excess of $28,000.

Denham Studio Strike Of Extras Averted

LONDON, Sept. 27.—Agreeing to await the results of Labor Ministry arbitration of union demands for a closed shop for extra players, the Film Artistes Association today permitted its members to resume work in mob scenes in Gabriel Pascal's "Caesar and Cleopatra", at Denham studios.

FAA's decision follows upon a stand taken by J. Arthur Rank, who, speaking as Pascal's backer and president of the British Film Producers Association, said that on no account would he permit any one to be coerced to join a union against his will.

Academy Governors Election Results

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 27.—The following were added to the Academy board of governors in the annual election closed today: Ronald Coleman, George Murphy, James Hilton, Michael Curtiz, Mark Sandrich, Walter Wanger, Gordon Hollingshead, Harry Brand. Re-elected were: Jean Hersholt, Charles Brackett, Mary C. McCall, Jr., Sam Wood, Hector S. Dods, Farciot Edouart, Thomas Moulton, Y. Frank Freeman, E. J. Mannix and Nat Finston.

Stearn, 70, Prominent In Ohio Exhibition

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 27.—Max Stearn, 70, general manager of Southern Theatres, died suddenly late yesterday following a heart attack. Active in the industry since 1903, Stearn started with the Arcade and Majestic Theatres here. He was a member of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, a director of local Variety and an active worker in War Loan drives. Surviving are his widow and a sister.

Aimee McPherson Dies

OAKLAND, Cal., Sept. 27.—Aimee Semple McPherson died here today from a heart attack. The Evangelist was 53 years old.

Film Executives Back in Paris

Henry Ulmann, an executive for Paramount Pictures in Paris was among several film executives mentioned yesterday in press dispatches from Paris, as having reappeared in the French capital after hiding from the Germans. Others mentioned were Raymond Bernard, French producer and his brother, Etienne.

The press dispatches also reported Harry Bauer, French film actor, had died in 1942 at the hands of the Gestapo.

No Quick Repeats on 'Going My Way'

"Going My Way" will be withdrawn from release after it has completed its original playoff and will not be available for immediate repeat runs, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, announced here yesterday.

The Bing Crosby picture will be released again sometime next year.

WB's First Dubbed in Spanish Set for S. A.

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 27.—Jack L. Warner today announced the Spanish dubbing of the first feature "My Reputation," will be completed in time for release in Latin American countries next January, probably preceding its release in the United States.

Inspires Thanksgiving

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 27.—In the campaign on the world anthem, "When the Lights Go on Again," which inspired the PRC production of the same title, Henry F. Schricker, Governor of Indiana, yesterday became the first public official in the U. S. to state that he would proclaim a week of thanksgiving and prayer to be known as "When the Lights Go on Again Week."

McGrann to Far East

Frank McGrann, in charge of radio, stage, screen and television in the Position Securing Bureau, has resigned to undertake a confidential mission to the Far East for the Government. McGrann, a captain in the last war, formerly was associated with Columbia Pictures, handled publicity for stage and film stars and wrote, produced and directed radio shows.

RKO Gets Delay

RKO-Pathe News has been granted an extension from Sept. 29 to Oct. 13 to file an answer in U. S. District Court here to a $25,250 alleged breach-of-contract suit brought by Dorothy T. Stone, film-library operator, who charges that her services were engaged as associate editor of the "Flicker Flashbacks" series and terminated after completion of issue.

Television Big in British Theatres

Television promises to be an important factor for British theatres in the future, Francis L. Harley, 20th Century-Fox's manager in Great Britain, declared in an interview here, but it will be managed in such a way that neither films nor the television industry "will be hurt."

Harley said that television was more advanced in England before the war than the U. S., with television programs regularly broadcast and many specialized theatres such as newsreel houses using them as a regular part of their programs. The sale of television sets there before the war was large, he said.

Twentieth-Fox's British manager will return to his post in London around Sept. 15, possibly sooner, and Larry Kent will follow him shortly to assume his duties as a member of the Gaumont-British Theatre Circuit advisory committee. J. Arthur Rank, British film leader, and 20th-Fox have interests in Metropolis and Bradford Trust, which controls Gaumont-British.

"It is highly probably," Harley said, "that television will have some kind of arrangement whereby various wavelengths will be allocated to serve various theatres. The British government will probably license theatres to show these programs."

Twentieth-Fox's British production is presently at a standstill because of a lack of studio space and availability of technicians, Harley said. (Joseph M. Schenck, executive head of 20th-Fox production, recently announced in Hollywood that the company will make a minimum of two pictures at Denham Studios, with "Moss Rose" slated as the first. Howard Hawks will produce and direct.)

Studios Seeking to Retain Radio Lanes

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, acting for Hollywood film studios, has prepared a report which will be submitted to the Federal Communications Commission when it starts hearings in Washington Sept. 28 on possible reallocation of broadcasting frequency channels, it was learned here yesterday.

Most studios have FCC licenses to operate radio communication systems between the studios and units filming on location. A special frequency has been held by the film industry for this purpose for many years and acting on the industry's behalf, the Academy is seeking to retain these channels.

It is understood that John V. L. Hogan, independent radio consultant will handle the Academy's petition before the FCC.

Lamb to L. and J.

ATLANTA, Sept. 27.—Kathleen Lamb has been named publicity director for the five Lucas and Jenkins Theatres in Macon. She is the wife of S/Sgt. David B. Whalen, former New York director of advertising and publicity for Republic Pictures.

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'ARSENIC' gives people broken records!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

'Arsenic's' Gross Tops Strand 3rd Wk.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" is headed for a record third week at the Strand N. Y. The film set an opening-week record, too.

← WARNER PICTURE

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

a marvelous performance

ARY GRANT in Frank Capra's "ARSENIC AND OLD LACE"

RAYMOND IASSEY · JACK CARSON · PETER LORRE

PRISCILLA LANE · EDW. EVERETT HORTON
JAMES GLEASON · JOSEPHINE HULL
JEAN ADAIR · JOHN ALEXANDER

Directed by FRANK CAPRA

Screen Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein · From the Stage Play by JOSEPH KESSELRING · Produced by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse · Music by Max Steiner

KEEP SELLING BONDS!

Algiers Boycott of Films 'Temporary'

Representatives here of the French Committee for National Liberation, informed of a short-wave radio report from Algiers that several theatres there had refused to show Allies' films of the liberation of Paris, interpret the move as a temporary consequence of Allied occupation in Algeria and expressed the view that no widespread resistance was indicated.

Jean de le Roche, FCNL specialist here on colonial affairs, pointing to the very mixed population in Algiers, including many Spaniards, Italians and Greeks, said the boycott on the liberation films was probably in a suburb where the Italian element predominated. However, the broadcast on the subject, delivered by M. Bosman, a delegate of the Commissioner of Information at Algiers, had mentioned that "wretched considerations of profit were put forward without any justification, for the government of the Republic has not hesitated for a year to supply North Africa with French newsreels and to accept a considerable deficit by halving prices that formerly had to be paid for Boche newsreels presented by Vichy."

Armour Will Control 'Liberated' Showings

(*Continued from page* 1)

ries authority over regular "liberated" theatres and does not in any way involve exhibitions for the Armed Forces, which are controlled by the Army.

There has been much criticism in certain quarters about the reputed preferential treatment given pictures of other nations in theatre allocations in France, to the detriment of American product. Selections of product available are issued to French exhibitors by the OWI, with representatives of British exhibition interests, stationed in France, doing the selecting. Armour's new Governmental appointment is expected to result in a more equitable "break" for Hollywood product, it is understood.

Distributors Called In Schine Hearing

(*Continued from page* 1)

sistant secretary of RKO-Radio; Edward Saunders, assistant general sales manager of Loew's, and a representative of Warners.

Today's session was devoted to identifying and marking for identification license agreements between Schine and 20th-Fox, RKO, Columbia, Universal and United Artists, and certain agreements relating to Schine's acquisition of theatres in Newark, N. J., Seneca Falls, Malone, Penn Yan and Little Falls, all in N. Y. Also marked for identification were Schine records of employment of various theatre managers and district managers.

Films Wage - Hour Unit Is Dissolved

(*Continued from page* 1)

committees were set up for this purpose, all of which have been dissolved, it being explained that their recommendations have been approved and carried into effect in wage orders issued by the Administrator.

Consent Decree Can't Be 'Patched,' Says MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

tive approach" to the solution of industry problems, terming the decree the "climax of the negative approach."

Now, the bulletin continues, it is proposed to divorce affiliated theatres, "yet no one in the industry will tell you seriously that theatre divorcement will do anything but damage to the industry, or will solve any of the problems of the independent exhibitor. Even its most earnest and vociferous advocates will tell you all they expect to accomplish by it is to hurt the distributors with theatre interests, to punish them for grievances and injustices which they refuse to correct or modify, and possibly to scare them into giving exhibitors 'concessions.' It is the ultimate in the negative approach."

Main Objections Ignored

The main objections of exhibitors to the decree, the bulletin says, are ignored in the new Department of Justice proposals for an amended decree.

The bulletin continues: "Strong objection was made (by exhibitors) to small block selling. It is continued. Strong objection was made to required trade showings, which force small block selling. It also is continued. The main demand of exhibitors for a 20 per cent cancellation is ignored. We object to legalistic arbitration before outsiders, requiring lawyers and appeals to New York. That is continued. We wanted local, organized mediation before arbitration. It is ignored, as well as other important proposals."

Review of Proposals

Pointing out that MPTOA proposals for trade practice reforms have been before the Department of Justice for more than a year, the bulletin reviews them as follows: a 20 per cent cancellation privilege; an industry-operated, non-legal, conciliation plan, followed by simple arbitration before experienced, industry arbitrators; standard zoning schedules openly negotiated and published for improved clearance and run systems and speedier release in large cities; clearance limited to actual competition and secret deals for excessive clearance abolished; a simplified standard exhibition contract, subject to arbitration; elimination of multi-taxes on music; coordinated defense against discriminatory taxation; cooperative local regulation of unfair non-theatrical competition, and local regulation of cut-throat competition in multi-feature programs and giveaways.

"These are all positive approaches to exhibitor problems, long advocated by MPTOA exhibitor organizations and leaders," the bulletin concludes. "We will continue to press for these reforms until better ones are proposed."

CBS Delays Decision On Video Lighting

Columbia Broadcasting will refrain, for the present, from recommending 'one type of lighting as against another' in postwar television, Worthington C. Miner, in charge of program operations at the CBS television studios, reported last night at a meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, at the Hotel Pennsylvania here.

Miner said CBS is now experimenting with various types of illumination but that, even if the experiments should be satisfactory, a recommendation will be withheld. He explained that it is too early to come to definite conclusions on this point because of uncertainty as to the character of pick-up equipment in use after the war.

Albert Dezel Adopts Film Classics Name

CLEVELAND, Sept. 27.—Albert Dezel, independent distributor, who for years has operated three Midwest exchanges known as Albert Dezel Roadshow Attractions, has changed the name to Film Classics of Michigan, Film Classics of Cleveland and Film Classics of Cincinnati. A new Cincinnati office will open next week, to be managed by Louis Van Baalen, former Cleveland booker.

MPA Postwar Reunion

Motion Picture Associates is planning to hold a fathers-and-sons reunion here soon after the war ends, Morris Sanders, president, reports.

'Allergic,' 'Holiday' Good at $23,000

BUFFALO, Sept. 27.—"Christmas Holiday" and "Allergic to Love" are out front here this week, at the Lafayette, and are expected to hit $23,000 in the first week of what looks like a good run. "Janie" and "Crime By Night" are better than average at the Great Lakes, while others are off.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 30:

"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"Take It Or Leave It" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO — (3,489) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,400).

"Janie" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,400. (Average: $16,200).

"Maisie Goes to Reno" (M-G-M)
"The Whistler" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $9,700).

"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
"Passport to Destiny" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY — (3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,200).

"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Allergic to Love" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE — (3,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $12,400).

Brewer Leaves AFL Post

NORFOLK, Neb., Sept. 27.—Roy Brewer, former Grand Island projectionist, now with the WPB in Washington, has resigned as president of the Nebraska Federation of Labor, ending a dominance in top leadership of that organization by the film industry. Leo Tews, local member of the projectionists union, was advanced from second to first vice-president, with the appointment of first vice-president J. J. Guenther to the presidency.

Quick Playoff Of Expensive Films Planned

(*Continued from page* 1)

tinued high spending for at least that long after hostilities end, regardless of any possible delays in reconversion and the start of a post-war boom.

Chief industry concern in this connection is the unchecked increase in production costs and the high number of pictures that are close to or above the $2,000,000 budget. While some studio heads are of the opinion that production schedules are flexible enough to be adjusted to changed economic conditions as they arise, there is an industry faction, including a number of sales department executives, urging that action toward lower costs be taken now.

One of the sore spots at the bottom of expensive negatives from distributor and exhibitor viewpoints, is understood to be the high prices paid for stories, particularly Broadway plays and published novels, too many of which are claimed not to have an ultimate boxoffice value corresponding with their cost. However, this situation, it is said, is expected to be solved in the usual supply-and-demand manner when and if prices in general turn downward.

All Hope for More Freon Abandoned

(*Continued from page* 1)

plained. This production would have been sufficient to meet all known military and civilian requirements during the fourth quarter. A shortage of anhydrous hydrofluoric acid that has developed as a result of the failure to complete new production facilities on schedule and previous over-estimates of the capacity of operating plants has made it impossible to turn out freon gas at anything like the scheduled rate, and it is not now expected that the freon facilities will be able to produce even 70 per cent of the programmed amount until additional acid plants can be built or military demand for acid drops materially.

Plans Complete for Variety Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

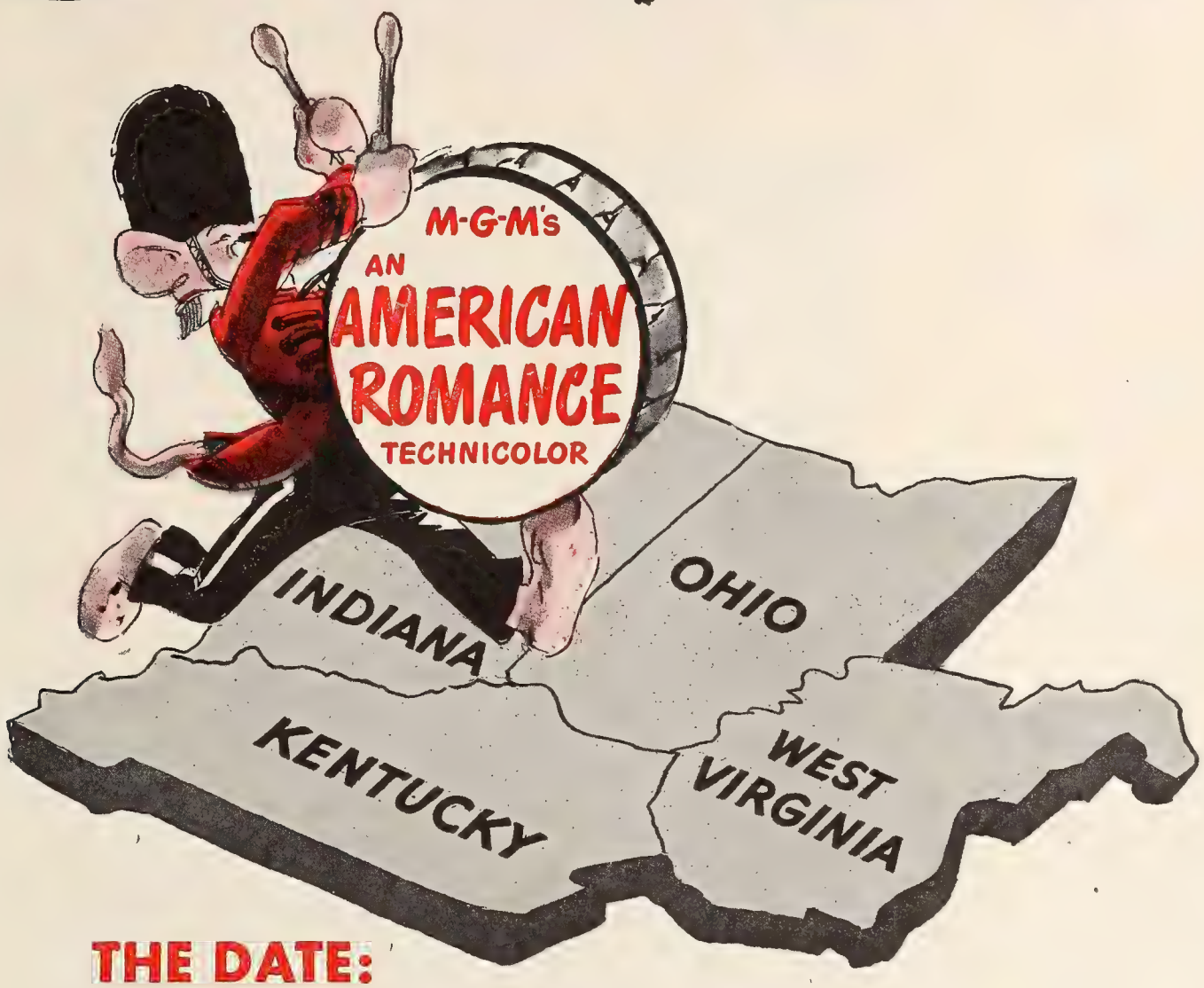
luncheon for all delegates; Friday afternoon, business meeting; Friday night, formal stag dinner at which Variety's annual 'Humanitarian Award' will be made; Saturday morning, final business meeting; Saturday afternoon, 'open house', sponsored by Washington Tent No. 11 at the Willard Hotel; Saturday night, banquet in conjunction with Washington tent's annual dinner-dance, at the Willard.

AFM Drops Demand On Newsreel Music

(*Continued from page* 1)

gether, was left open by the AFM when the producers signed a two-year contract with Petrillo in Hollywood on May 17. At that time, the question was said to be "earmarked" for future discussion in New York.

SHOWMANSHIP!



THE DATE:

OCTOBER 12th

THE PLACE:

OHIO, INDIANA, WEST VIRGINIA, KENTUCKY

THE EVENT:

132-CITY WORLD PREMIERE OF M-G-M's MIGHTY TECHNICOLOR DRAMA "AN AMERICAN ROMANCE"

THE CAMPAIGN:

Famed Radio Station WLW of Cincinnati spearheads a promotion that will resound throughout the nation. Spot announcements 4 weeks in advance building up to larger and larger radio time. Newspaper ads 3 weeks in advance throughout territory. Posting of all kinds. 24-sheets, car cards, American Express Truck posters. Intensive exploitation, special trailers, cast appearances, parades, displays. Inaugural Banquet and Preview in Cincinnati. The works!

"You've got to be a great showman to be a leader for Twenty years!"



Keep Selling Bonds!

KING VIDOR'S Production "AN AMERICAN ROMANCE" Starring BRIAN DONLEVY with Ann Richards, Walter Abel, John Qualen, Horace McNally • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Herbert Dalmas and William Ludwig • Produced and Directed by King Vidor • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

$158,500 for Four Weeks of 'Wilson' In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 27.—"Wilson" wound up its four weeks run at the Warfield with an overall gross of $158,500. The final week's take was $24,500. The picture will stay on here at the Alcazar.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 26-28:

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Since You Went Away' '(UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (74c-$1.20) 5th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Music in Manhattan" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $29,300. (Average: $27,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (76c-85c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $25,000).
"Janie" (WB)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
FOX—(5,000) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $28,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Bathing Beauty" (M-G-M)
"Strangers in the Night" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,308) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,000).
"Double Indemnity" (Para.)
"Port of 40 Thieves" (Rep.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (45c-65c-85c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000).

Columbia Dual Is $10,100 Leader

OMAHA, Sept. 27.—"The Impatient Years," dualled with "One Mysterious Night" at the Brandeis Theatre, did the best comparative business here. The top gross, $12,000, was rolled up by "Wing and a Prayer," plus "South of Dixie," at the Orpheum. Weather was fair.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27-28:

"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"One Mysterious Night" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,500).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
OMAHA—(2,000) (44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,400).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,800).
"Janie" (WB)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $11,700).

Blumenthal Schedule For Warners at Tops

At least 16 outdoor short subjects will be made for Warner Bros. this season by A. Pam Blumenthal in association with Andre DeLaVarre and Van Campen Heilner, it was reported here yesterday by Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, following Blumenthal's return from Hollywood, where he conferred with Gordon Hollingshead, chief of short subject production at the Coast studio. This is the largest schedule ever undertaken by the Blumenthal unit in one season.

Heilner will return this week from Canada, where five subjects have been shot, including a Canadian Army subject. DeLaVarre is on a vacation.

'Trigger' the Host

"Trigger," the horse, has invited Roy Rogers, his boss, and representatives of the press and Republic executives, to a reception at the Hotel Astor next Tuesday afternoon.

Review

"My Buddy"

(Republic)

SOMETHING of the intended moral and social significance of this production may be gleaned from the over-all presentation of the problem confronting the returned serviceman. The film is an attempt to draw a parallel between the soldier returned from World War I to find no job and no visible economic means of social security and the man who will return from World War II. The basic idea for "My Buddy" had possibilities but the handling of it was inadequate, resorting to an ineffective appeal to the most superficial emotions. A perfectly capable cast, including John Litel, Donald Barry, Lynne Roberts, Ruth Terry and Emma Dunn, is lost in the loosely strung story, directed without apparent regard for individual capacities of the players or the roles involved.

In flashback, the story of Barry, a soldier of World War I, is presented, as it is told to a World War II postwar planning commission to emphasize the necessity of preventing in our time what happened the last time. John Litel, a priest, does the telling, of how Barry came back from France to find no available jobs and no compensatory means of security in his difficult readjustment period. Barry joins a crooked 'protective association,' headed by Alexander Granach, as 'front man.' He eventually gets a five-year prison term which serves only to seat more deeply his hatred for society. Upon his release from jail Barry forms his own 'protective association,' having spurned his mother, Miss Dunn, and his girl, Miss Roberts. Miss Terry, a hard-boiled nightclub entertainer, arrives on the scene, and brings Barry's complete downfall. In the ultimate showdown with the law, Barry is killed, but not before he pens a note to Litel, the priest, who had once befriended him. He admits repentance for his misdeeds, laying the responsibility upon an unprepared and inadequate society.

Eddy White produced and Steve Sekely directed, from Arnold Manoff's screenplay, based upon an original by Prescott Chaplin.

Running time, 69 minutes. Release date, Oct. 12. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Cross', 'Seed' Are Holdover Tops

CLEVELAND, Sept. 27.—"Dragon Seed" and "Seventh Cross," both holdovers, made the best showing in a poor week. "Dragon Seed" almost doubled the average at Loew's Ohio with a $9,000 gross. "Wilson" had a fair play in its second week at the RKO Palace, grossing $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27:

"Secret Command" (Col.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
WARNER' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $22,100).
"In Society" (Univ.)
WARNERS LAKE—(714) (45c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (75c-$1.10) 2nd week. Stage: Belita and Bob Chester orchestra. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,400).
"Sensations of 1945" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Seventh Cross" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000).

WLB Approves 10% Increase for SOEG

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 27.—The Screen Office Employes Guild today announced the War Labor Board's approval of a 10 per cent overall wage increase for 150 members employed by Los Angeles exchanges, retroactive to Oct. 19, 1943.

'SYWA' Doubles K.C. Gross with $28,000

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 27.—The Midland leads this wek with "Since You Went Away" grossing about $28,000. The Newman with "I Love a Soldier" will get about $13,500. It was not an overwhelming week on the whole, but the weather has been unsettled and so has the public mood.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 26-29:

"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,100) (75c-$1.10) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $1,500).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000).
"Since You Went Away" (UA)
MIDLAND—(3,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $14,000).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (46c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Youth Runs Wild" (RKO)
"Days of Glory" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Ghost Catcher" (Univ.)
"South of Dixie" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage Show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).
"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600).
FAIRWAY—(700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,600).

'March of Time' to Blue

"March of Time" will move its weekly radio program from NBC to the Blue Network on Nov. 2. The program will be broadcast over about 190 stations on Thursday evenings at 10:30.

Henry Luce, owner of Time, Inc., purchased a 12½ per cent interest in the Blue web for about $1,000,000 last December.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Sept. 27

THIS seems as good a time as any to place on record the fact that the trade's method of screening pictures for the trade, in trade-showings and screenings for the press, is improper, unfair and altogether wrong.

The practice is to begin at the beginning of a picture and run it on out to the finish.

Practically nobody but the trade ever sees a picture in that order. It follows that the experience of the exhibitor or critic seeing product from start to finish is not identical with the experience of the ultimate consumer, wherefore neither is his opinion of it.

To provide his prospective clients and the press with a correct view of that which the ultimate consumer is to behold, a producer would be on the right track if he started somewhere in mid-picture, ran off another feature, a cartoon and a newsreel next, and then got to the beginning of his own production.

Screenings would take longer, but accuracy would be served.

Any takers?

•

Walter Lantz, who produces 'Cartunes' for Universal release, is conducting, through that company's foreign offices, a checkup on audience taste for cartoons in France, Italy, Holland, Belgium and, as they open up, other liberated countries. . . . David Hempstead's next two productions for RKO Radio will be "Cornered," by Ben Hecht, Herman Mankiewicz and Czenzi Ormonde, and "Marry at Leisure," by Virginia Lederer. . . . Rosalind Russell's next for Columbia is "Some Call It Love," a comedy by William Thiele and Lazlo Gorog, concerning a psychiatrist. Virginia Van Upp will produce it.

•

PRC announces two more pictures for its 1945-46 program, "Kentucky Mansion," to be produced by Martin Mooney, as a sequel to the same company's "The Great Mike," to star Robert Henry, also seen in that film, and "Madman of Mattewan," to star Frank Jenks and Iris Adrian. The latter will be produced by Leon Fromkess, with Al Herman in association and directing.

•

A somewhat special interest attaches to the disclosure that RKO Radio is to make a picture to be called "The Invisible Army" and time it for release "coincident with the liberation of the Philippines." It hasn't gone into production yet, but the studio's printed disclosure says "months of secret preparation" have been put into the project and that John Wayne is to star in it, Robert Fellows producing. Additionally, Col. George S. Clarke, who commanded the 57th U. S. Infantry on Bataan, has been assigned by the War Department to work on the film as technical adviser, and Col. Carlos P. Romulo, resident commissioner in the U. S. for the Philippine Commonwealth, is to cooperate, the studio informs.

Aeneas MacKenzie and Richard Landau have completed the script, based on a story suggestion by William Gordon, according to the same statement. The statement does not explain why the preparation was considered a matter requiring secrecy, nor how it is going to keep the boys in the South Pacific from liberating the Philippines before release date.

$40,000 Over Par for MGM's 'Kismet' in L.A.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 27.—"Kismet" ran wild in a week of temperatures that included one day of 105 degrees, and picked up a tremendous $73,500 in the Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz triad that averages $33,100. "Arsenic and Old Lace" weathered the contest, getting $53,867 in the three Warner first-runs that average $50,900. But "Sweet and Lowdown" proved more latter than former for the Chinese, Fox Wilshire and Uptown, getting $27,400 against a $37,750 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27:

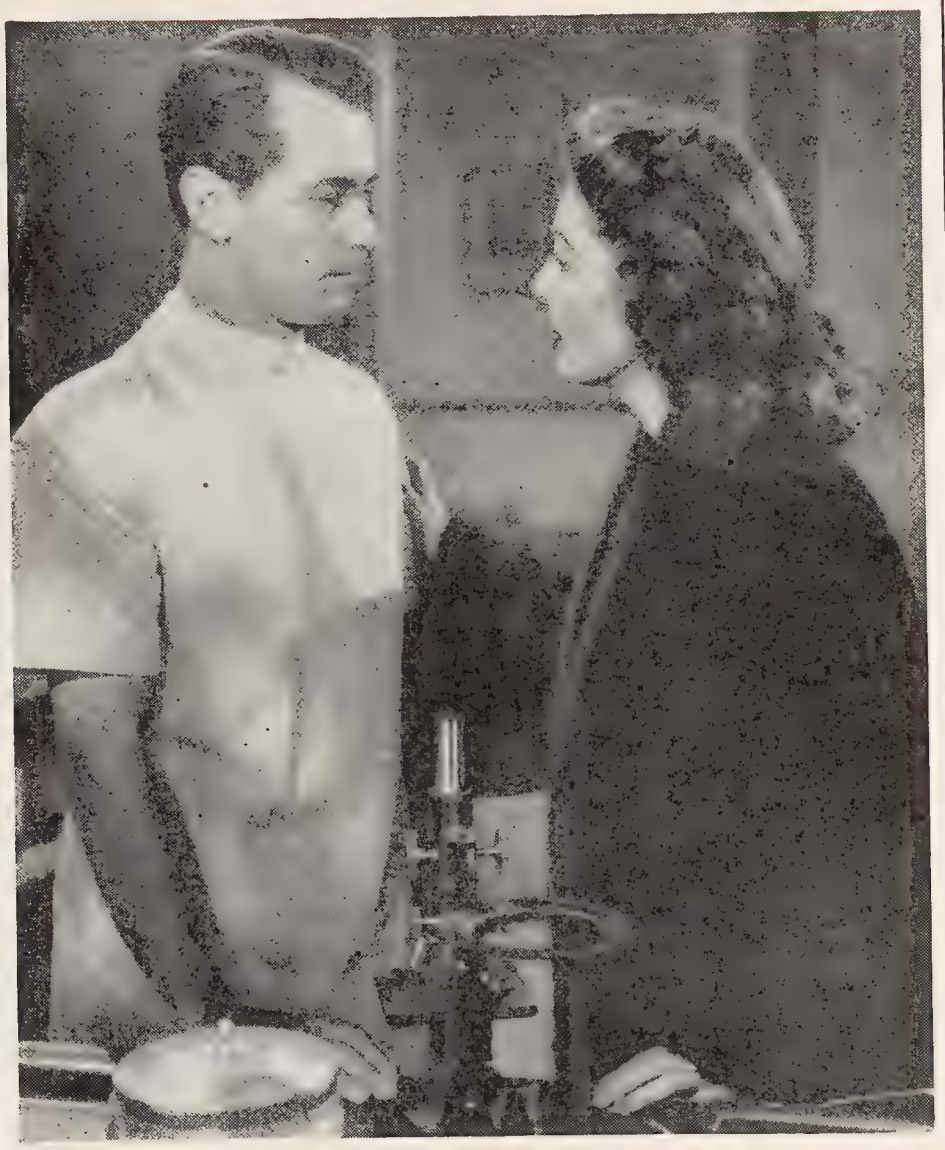
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,200).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
EGYPTIAN—(1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $9,500)
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
FOX-WILSHIRE — (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $11,750).
"The Invisible Man's Revenge" (Univ.)
"Dead Man's Eyes" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,700).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,100).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
LOS ANGELES—(2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $14,900).
"Casanova Brown" (RKO)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16,700).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,300).
"Kismet" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $8,700).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.50) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $21,150. (Average: $16,600).
"Sweet and Lowdown" (20th-Fox)
"In the Meantime, Darling" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $10,500).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,265. (Average: $17,000).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,278. (Average: $18,700).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,324. (Average: $15,200).

G. E. Raymond, 79, Dies on West Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 27.—G. E. Raymond, 79, district manager of the Orpheum Circuit until his retirement in 1923, died today at his home here. He was born in Brooklyn. He managed theatres throughout the country, and was a member of the committee which formulated theatre safety regulations following the Iriquois disaster. He is survived by his widow and a sister.

Paramount NEWS

AND NOTHING *BUT* THE NEWS



"LADD FOR THANKSGIVING!" IS GOOD WORD FROM PARAMOUNT AS SALES DEPT. ANNOUNCES NOV. 24 RELEASE DATE FOR "AND NOW TOMORROW", IN WHICH ALAN LADD RETURNS TO THE SCREEN AFTER NEARLY 2 YEARS OF ARMY SERVICE. NEW FILM IS FROM BEST-SELLER BY THE AUTHOR OF "ALL THIS, AND HEAVEN TOO", AND CO-STARS LORETTA YOUNG UNDER IRVING PICHEL'S DIRECTION. IT'S LADD'S FIRST SINCE HIS METEORIC SUCCESS IN "CHINA".

Breezes Aid Loop; 'Seed', 'Gaslight' Lead

CHICAGO, Sept. 27.—A strong weekend, favored with cool weather, helped the Loop out of comparatively dull business this week. Exceptions were two newcomers: "Dragon Seed," at the State Lake, and "Gaslight," at the Apollo, which attracted $35,000 and $17,000, respectively.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 28:

"Gaslight" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,400).
"I Love a Soldier" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(3,850) (55c-85c-95c). Stage: Harry Cool and revue. Gross: $46,000. (Average: $51,500).
"Brother Rat" (WB reissue)
DOWNTOWN—(1,600) (44c-55c-85c-95c) Stage: Nick Lucas and revue. Gross: $14,000).
"Mr. Winkle Goes to War" (Col.)
"Secret Command" (Col.)
GARRICK—(1,000) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,100).
"Bride By Mistake" (RKO)
"Pearl of Death" (Univ.)
GRAND—(1,250) (50c-60c-85c-95c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100).
"A Wave, a Wac and a Marine" (Mono.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (44c-55c-85c-95c). Stage: Louis Jordan and orchestra. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Christmas Holiday" (Univ.)
"Moonlight and Cactus" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000).
"Wing and a Prayer" (20th-Fox)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STATE LAKE—(2,700) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $35,000. (Average: $29,000).
"Two Girls and a Sailor" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Man From 'Frisco" (Rep.) 5 days, 2nd week
"Casanova Brown" (RKO) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,000).

'Wilson's $20,000 Against $11,600 Par

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 27.—"Wilson," at the Indiana, will top receipts here this week, expecting a $20,000 gross. The Lyric, with "Mask of Dimitrios" and "Brother Rat," will do $7,000, against a $4,900 average. Other houses are average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 26-28:

"Hail the Conquering Hero" (Para.)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,800).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA — (3,200) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,600).
"Silent Partner" (Rep.)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (60c) 4 days. Stage show. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,000).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Ever Since Venus" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Mask of Dimitrios" (WB)
"Brother Rat" (WB)
LYRIC—(2,000) (32c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,900).

Burke Services Today

Services for Edwin Burke, screen writer, playwright and director, who died here Tuesday, will be held at St. Malachy's Roman Catholic Church at 10 o'clock this morning. Burke, who wrote or collaborated on a number of Will Rogers' films and on others including "The Farmer Takes a Wife" and "The Littlest Rebel," was a member of the Lambs and the Players. His adaptation of "Bad Girl" won an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Award in 1932.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 2	THE IMPATIENT YEARS Jean Arthur Lee Bowman Charles Coburn C—72 mins. (5002)	(Special Release) WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER Irene Dunne Alan Marshall D—126 mins. (491)	OH, WHAT A NIGHT! Edmund Loew Marjorie Rambeau Jean Parker C—71 mins. (306)	(Sixth Block) HAIL THE CONQUERING HERO Eddie Bracken Ella Raines C—100 mins. (4326)		RIDE, RANGER, RIDE (Reissue) Gene Autry O—(3306)	SNOW WHITE and the SEVEN DWARFS (reissue) 83 mins. (492) (Disney Feature Cartoon) (Color)	(First Block, 1944-'45) (August Releases)	SINCE YOU WENT AWAY Shirley Temple Claudette Colbert Jennifer Jones Monty Wooley P—171 mins.	GYPSY WILDCAT Maria Montez Jon Hall (Color) D—(1944-'45) 75 mins. (9005)	CRIME BY NIGHT Jane Wyman Jerome Cowan O—72 mins. (402) (1944-'45)
Sept. 9	COWBOY FROM LONESOME RIVER Charles Starrett O—55 mins. (6201) (1944-'45) EVER SINCE VENUS Ann Savage Ross Hunter Ina Ray Hutton C—74 mins. (5025)	(Special Release) DRAGON SEED Katharine Hepburn Walter Huston D—148 mins. (500) (1944-'45)	BLACK MAGIC Sidney Toler Manton Moreland D—64 mins. (324)	TAKE IT BIG Jack Haley Harriet Hilliard C—75 mins. (4327)	SWING HOSTESS Martha Tilton Iris Adrian M— 76 mins. (509) (1944-45)	THAT'S MY BABY Richard Arlen Ellen Drew D—68 mins. (328)				MOONLIGHT AND CACTUS Andrews Sisters Leo Carrillo Elyse Knox M—60 mins. (9022) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 16	ONE MYSTERIOUS NIGHT Chester Morris Janis Carter D—61 mins. (5033)	(Ninth Block) SEVENTH CROSS Spencer Tracy Signe Hasso D—111 mins. (501)	LAND OF THE OUTLAWS Johnny Mack Brown O—(357) BLOCK BUSTERS East Side Kids D—60 mins. (313)	THE GREAT MOMENT Joel McCrea Betty Field D—80 mins. (4330)	WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN James Lydon Grant Mitchell D—74 mins (41PS)	STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT D—56 mins. (326) SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—74 mins. (345)	(Seventh Block) THE FALCON IN MEXICO Tom Conway Mona Maris D—70 mins. (431)	(Second Block, 1944-'45) (Sept. Releases)		THE MERRY MONAHANS Donald O'Connor Peggy Ryan Jack Oakie C—91 mins. (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Sept. 23	CAROLINA BLUES Kay Kyser Ann Miller Victor Moore M—81 mins.	BARBARY COAST GENT Wallace Beery Binnie Barnes D—87 mins. (502)	SHADOW OF SUSPICION Marjorie Weaver Tim Ryan 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)	HENRY ALDRICH'S LITTLE SECRET Jimmy Lydon Charlie Smith C—75 mins. (4328)	GANGSTERS OF THE FRONTIER Dave O'Brien Tex Ritter O—58 mins. (1944-'45)	STAGECOACH TO MONTEREY O—55 mins. (462) (1944-'45) ATLANTIC CITY Constance Moore Brad Taylor M—87 mins. (327)	BRIDE BY MISTAKE Laraine Day Alan Marshall D—81 mins. (434)	SWEET AND LOW DOWN Lynn Bari Benny Goodman M—75 mins. (503)		PEARL OF DEATH Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce D—69 mins. (9019) (1944-'45)	
Sept. 30	STRANGE AFFAIR Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D (5026)	MAISIE GOES TO RENO Ann Sothern John Hodiak C—(504)	TRIGGER LAW Hoot Gibson Bob Steele O—54 mins. (368)	I LOVE A SOLDIER Paulette Goddard Sonny Tufts D—105 mins. (4329)		CHEYENNE WILDCAT Wild Bill Elliott Bobby Blake O—56 mins. (3314)	MUSIC IN MANHATTAN Anne Shirley Dennis Day M—81 mins. (432)	GREENWICH VILLAGE Don Ameche Carmen Miranda M—(Color) 82 mins. (505)		SAN DIEGO, I LOVE YOU Jon Hall Louise Allbritton Edward E. Horton Eric Blore D—83 mins. (1944-'45)	ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Cary Grant C—118 mins. (403) (1944-'45)
Oct. 7	MEET MISS BOBBY-SOCKS Bob Crosby Lynn Merrick Louis Jordan and orchestra M—(1944-'45)	WATERLOO BRIDGE (Reissue) Robert Taylor Vivien Leigh D—103 mins. (503)	A WAC, A WAVE AND A MARINE Elyse Knox C—69 mins. (1944-'45) WHEN STRANGERS MARRY Kim Hunter Dean Jagger 67 mins. D—(1944-'45)	(Special Release) GOING MY WAY Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald Rise Stevens D—130 mins. (4335)	I ACCUSE MY PARENTS Mary Beth Hughes Robert Lowell D—(1944-'45)	CODE OF THE PRAIRIE Smiley Burnette Sunset Carson O—56 mins. (452) (1944-'45) MY BUDDY Donald Barry D—69 mins. (403)	HEAVENLY DAYS Fibber McGee and Molly C—72 mins. (435)	DANGEROUS JOURNEY (Travelogue) 70 mins. (504)		THE SINGING SHERIFF Bob Crosby Fay McKenzie Edward Norris O—63 mins. (9030) (1944-'45)	THE LAST RIDE Richard Travis Eleanor Parker D—(404) (1944-'45)
Oct. 14	SHADOWS IN THE NIGHT Warner Baxter Nina Foch George Zucco D—(1944-'45) (6021)	MARRIAGE IS A PRIVATE AFFAIR Lana Turner John Hodiak C—118 mins. (505)		(Special Reissue) THE SIGN OF THE CROSS Fredric March Claudette Colbert D—118 mins.		STORM OVER LISBON Vera Hruba Ralston Eric Von Stroheim D—86 mins. (323)	(Special Release) CASANOVA BROWN Gary Cooper Teresa Wright C—92 mins. (581) (1944-'45)	(Special Release) WILSON (Color) Alexander Knox Geraldine Fitzgerald D—154 mins.		BABES ON SWING STREET Peggy Ryan Ann Blyth Kirby Grant Freddy Slack orch. M—70 mins.	
Oct. 21	THE UNWRITTEN CODE Ann Savage Tom Neal D—(1944-'45)	KISMET Ronald Colman Marlene Dietrich D—103 mins. (506)		(First Block) (1944-'45) RAINBOW ISLAND (color) Eddie Bracken Dorothy Lamour C—96 mins. (4401)			(First Block) (1944-'45) MY PAL WOLF Jill Esmond Una O'Connor D—69 mins. (505)			THE CLIMAX (Color) Susanna Foster Boris Karloff Turhan Bey D—86 mins.	THE CONSPIRATORS Hedy Lamarr Paul Henreid D—101 mins.
Oct. 28	THE MARK OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix D—(1944-'45)	MRS. PARKINGTON Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (507)	ARMY WIVES Elyse Knox Marjorie Rambeau D—(1944-'45) LAW OF THE VALLEY Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O	TILL WE MEET AGAIN Ray Milland Barbara Britton D—88 mins. (4402) NATIONAL BARN DANCE Jean Heather James Brown C—76 mins. (4403)	WILD HORSE PHANTOM Buster Crabbe Al St. John O—(1944-'45) I'M FROM ARKANSAS Slim Summerville C—(1944-'45)		NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART Cary Grant Ethel Barrymore D—113 mins. (501)	(Third Block) (1944-'45) (Oct. Release) THE BIG NOISE Stan Laurel Oliver Hardy C—74 mins. (506)			
Nov. 4	SGT. MIKE Larry Parks D EVE KNEW HER APPLES Ann Miller C CYCLONE PRAIRIE RANGERS Charles Starrett O	NAUGHTY MARIETTA (Reissue) Jeannette Mac Donald Nelson Eddy M—80 mins. (508)		OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY Diana Lynn Gail Russell C—81 mins. (4404) DARK MOUNTAIN Ellen Drew Robert Lowery D—56 mins. (4405)		END OF THE ROAD Edward Norris June Storey D—(402) 51 mins.	GOIN' TO TOWN Lum and Abner C—75 mins. (504) TALL IN THE SADDLE John Wayne Ella Raines O—87 mins. (503) THE MASTER RACE Carl Esmond Osa Massen Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey D—96 mins. (502)	IN THE MEAN-TIME, DARLING Jeanne Crain Frank Latimore D—72 mins. (507) IRISH EYES ARE SMILING Monte Wooley Dick Haymes June Haver M—(508)		BOWERY TO BROADWAY Donald O'Connor Maria Montez Peggy Ryan Turhan Bey M—96 mins. (502)	
Nov. 11	THE MISSING JUROR Janis Carter Jim Bannon D	(Special) AN AMERICAN ROMANCE Brian Donlevy Ann Richards D—51 mins. (510)			THE TOWN WENT WILD Freddie Bartholomew James Lydon C					DEAD MAN'S EYES Lon Chaney Sean Parker Paul Kelly D	THE VERY THOUGHT OF YOU Dennis Morgan Faye Emerson D

(Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following:)

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 56. NO. 63 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1944 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Warner Names Two as New Foreign Heads

Milder Post Unchanged, Rest of World Divided

Supervision over Warners' foreign film sales has been divided, following the resignation this week of Robert Schless as foreign general manager. Harry M. Warner, president, has appointed Joseph S. Hummel, who has been foreign sales manager, in charge of Continental Europe, Scandinavia, Africa, Palestine and Syria, and Wolfe Cohen, formerly Canadian general manager, in charge of Mexico, South America, Central America, Australia, New Zealand and the Far East.

Max Milder, managing director in Great Britain, will continue as head of all of the company's activities in that territory working directly under the supervision of H. M. Warner, as previously.

Hummel has been with Warners for

(*Continued on page 3*)

Canadian Exhibitors To Draft New Code

TORONTO, Sept. 28.—The meeting of the Canadian Moving Picture Distributors Association called for Monday deal with the final draft of negotiations with organized Canadian independents for adoption of the new conciliation code for Canadian business. This meeting is scheduled to be followed by a peace conference with representatives of the Independent Theatre Owners in Toronto, Wednesday, expected delegates including P. W. Mahon of Prince Albert representing Western Canada, and A. J. Mason of Springhill, N. S., president

(*Continued on page 3*)

Prefect Appeal to Be Heard in November

Appeal from Judge Carroll Hincks' April 14 decision against Prefect Theatres in its $5,452,575 anti-trust suit, filed Monday in U. S. District Court, New Haven, by Raymond E. Hackett, Prefect attorney of record, will be brought on for hearing in the U. S. District Court of Appeals probably in November, counsel for the plaintiffs stated here yesterday.

The suit, charging a majority of the

(*Continued on page 3*)

U. S. Alters Rules On Bonus Payments

Washington, Sept. 28.—Internal Revenue Bureau regulations for the payment of bonuses under the Salary Stabilization Act, have been revised to permit employers who have customarily paid bonuses or other additional compensation to continue to do so without prior approval, subject to certain limitations.

$2,413,507 'U' Profit

Universal Pictures, Inc., yesterday reported consolidated net earnings of $2,413,507, after all charges, including taxes, for the 39 weeks ended July 29. This compares with $2,771,338 in the corresponding period ended July, 1943. The profit, before providing for Federal income and excess profits taxes for the 1944 period was $7,566,507, compared with $8,445,538 in the same 1943 period.

For the 13 weeks ended July 29, net profits, after all charges and taxes, were $579,562, compared with $912,786 in the 1943 period. Earnings before provision for taxes were $2,771,662, compared with $3,327,731 in the 1943 period.

Industry Near Set for 6th

The entire industry is now rapidly nearing complete mobilization in the forthcoming 6th War Loan drive, Harry Brandt, national chairman, revealed here yesterday. The goal set by the Treasury Department for the drive, announced to start on Nov. 20 and end Dec. 16, has been set at $14,000,000,000 after conferences in Washington with leaders, bankers and fiscal experts.

Individual sales are expected to account for $5,000,000,000, with banking and corporate purchases expected to yield another $9,000,000,000. National "E" bond sales have been given a goal of approximately $2,500,000,000.

Theatre bond sales and all sales elsewhere reported to the Federal Reserve Bank from Nov. 1 to Dec. 31 will be credited in the drive.

Doob to Direct Loew DriveUnderSchenck

Oscar A. Doob yesterday was named by Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc., to direct the Sixth War Loan campaign for the Loew-M-G-M organization. Also appointed at a meeting of company executives here were: C. C. Mos-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Producers See Postwar Costs Continuing High

Studio executives, turning attention to postwar production trends, foresee costs continuing at present high levels and possibly even increasing, Red Kann will say in *Motion Picture Herald* today, from Hollywood. The producers believe comedies, musicals, mysteries and Westerns will better their pereninal popularity. Although only war stories "of stature" will survive, many not possible now for security reasons, will appear on the scene. More pictures than ever will be in color.

Little disagreement on these points appears in the answers to questions submitted to 11 studio officials: Joseph M. Schenck, 20th Century-Fox; Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount; Charles W. Koerner, RKO Radio; Herbert J. Yates, Republic; W. Ray Johnston, Monogram; Leon Fromkess, PRC; William Goetz, International, and producers David O. Selznick, Samuel Goldwyn, Sol Lesser and Harry Sherman.

Costs of production will continue high "until, or unless, the general economic condition of the industry should reach the point where reductions become necessary for survival," Freeman believes. Yates pointed out that the companies "have contracts with various guilds and unions whose salary rates for their members have been definitely established" and, further, "the price of materials, with few minor exceptions, will remain at present levels for some months to come."

Goetz declared that "the price of talent will be higher because competition will be keener as soon as many restrictions are lifted." And Selznick and Goldwyn see costs going up because that is the only direction in which they have ever gone. Schenck and Koerner, however, expect a grad-

(*Continued on page 3*)

FCC to Hear Theatre Video Postwar Needs

Film, Radio Spokesmen To Appear Oct. 15

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The Federal Communications Commission today began a month of hearings on the post-war needs for frequency channels of various radio services, including theatre television and the use of radio in film production, results of which will be used by the Department of State in the development of Inter-American and world-wide radio conventions to be worked out in conferences planned for next year.

The allocation investigation, first to be made since 1936, will cover all bands from 10 to 30,000 kilocycles, and is designed to pave the way for general use of the great developments in all branches of radio which have been made during the war, as well as to provide space for services expected

(*Continued on page 3*)

Expand Film Unit Of State Dept.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Reorganization and expansion of the motion picture and radio division of the Office of Public Information, under direction of John M. Begg, has been completed by the State Department in anticipation of greatly enlarged activities after the end of the European war.

The section is now called the International Information Division and its responsibilities, heretofore confined to liaison between the Department and other Federal agencies in matters involved in the dissemination

(*Continued on page 3*)

Bellfort and Clarke Promoted by RKO

Present and anticipated increases in foreign business prompts RKO Radio to expand that department, under Phil Reisman, who left this week for a South American trip. In line with the expansion, Joseph Bellfort, member of the home office legal staff, has been assigned by Gordon Youngman, general counsel, to the foreign department, while Edmund Clarke, assistant manager in Argentine, has been transferred to headquarters here.

KEEP SELLING BONDS!



THE BOX-OFFICE PICTURE OF THE CENTURY FROM 2

Directed by HENRY KING · Written by LAMAR TROTTI

VARIETY REPORTING:

"Tops WASHINGTON • Sockeroo SEATTLE • Wows CINCINNATI • Wham BALTIMORE • New Record PHILLY Establishing long run CLEVELAND Giant gross SAN FRANCISCO • Stout ST. LOUIS • The big news KANSAS CITY • Moves to Victoria after 8 weeks at ROXY, NEW YORK!"

Darryl F. Zanuck's

WILSON

in Technicolor

ENTURY-FOX

. . . and breaking all precedent in

PITTSBURGH • PORTLAND • SYRACUSE

BROOKLYN • ATLANTA • JERSEY CITY

DENVER • SPOKANE • ROCHESTER

PATERSON • AUGUSTA • SACRAMENTO

RICHMOND • COLUMBUS • SAVANNAH

FRESNO • INDIANAPOLIS • OAKLAND

NORFOLK • OKLAHOMA CITY • MACON

and many, many other situations, large and small, from coast to coast!

Altec Now Services 6,000 U.S. Theatres

Six thousand theatres are now serviced by Altec Service Corp., for both reproducing and associated booth equipment maintenance, George L. Carrington, Altec president disclosed here yesterday in announcing plans for the company's annual conference, to be held Oct. 16-20 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood.

This year in addition to the district managers, branch managers and field supervisors will attend the sessions, at which executives will review ways and means Altec has devised in keeping theatre sound equipments functioning at peak performance through the war. The delegates also will examine, hear, and discuss post-war equipment and new, improved technique in the servicing and furnishing of repair and replacement parts. They will visit the various Hollywood-Los Angeles manufacturing and assembly plants of Altec Lansing Corp. to view the manufacture of theatre loudspeaker systems, amplifiers and components, power supply units, transformers, networks and associated electronic apparatus.

Executives Attending

Executive attending the conference from Altec's New York office will be: Carrington, H. M. Bessey, E. Z. Walters, Stanley W. Hand and H. S. Morris. The following district and branch managers and district supervisors will attend: H. B. Moog, L. J. Hacking, R. Hilton, R. C. Gray, O. E. Maxwell, Warren Conner, M. G. Thomas, C. J. Zern, G. E. Wiltse, F. C. Dickely, S. M. Pariseau, R. A. Quinn, Bert Sanford, Jr., A. J. Rademacher, L. J. Patton, D. A. Peterson, W. E. Gregory, C. S. Perkins.

West Coast executive personnel attending will be: A. A. Ward, J. B. Lansing, John K. Hilliard, E. O. Wilschke, A. Fiore, E. B. Lee, J. Maurice Ridge, J. A. Cameron, Harry W. Dodge.

'Way' in Lead Again; $15,000 in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 28.—Lifting of the 'polio' quarantine on Saturdays has resulted in an upturn of business at both neighborhood and first-run theatres here. "Going My Way", at the Palace, is headed for a third week, running 40 per cent above average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 28:

"Sweet and Low-Down" (20th-Fox)
"Dangerous Journey" (20th-Fox)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Going My Way" (Para.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500).
"Janie" (WB)
"Crime By Night" (WB)
ALHAMBRA — (1,900) (50c-72c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"The Girl Who Dared" (Rep.)
Jimmie Dorsey and Band
RIVERSIDE — (2,700) (65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"In Society" (Univ.)
"The Mummy's Ghost" (Univ.)
WARNER — (2,400) (50c-72c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000).

Para. Buys 'Landlubber'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Paramount has purchased "The Lady and the Landlubber," an original comedy, and assigned E. D. Leshin to produce.

Ontario Agitating For Time Change

Toronto, Sept. 28. — With the lifting of the ban on outdoor lighting in Ontario Sunday night, agitation has developed for abolishment of daylight saving time throughout Canada as a permanent measure, and as further modification of regulations cramping business conditions. With removal of electric power restrictions an official source stated paper mills will now resume full production.

There will be no further paper shortage and restrictions on the use of paper for civilian advertising purposes will be dropped. This is still another help for normal theatre operation.

Ohio Turns Clocks Back One Hour

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 28.—The majority of Ohio towns have already turned clocks back one hour, to Eastern Standard Time, with Columbus, Findlay, Fostoria, Fremont, Marietta, Massillon, Mt. Vernon, St. Marys, Wilmington, Toledo and Zanesville making the change next Sunday. However, Bellaire, East Liverpool, Martins Ferry and Conneaut will remain on Eastern War Time, one hour ahead of the balance of the state.

'Star of Tomorrow' Gets Para. Contract

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Sonny Tufts, the winner of first place in *Motion Picture Herald's* "Star of Tomorrow" poll, today was given a new contract by Paramount. He is now starring in "Miss Susie Slagle's."

Shafer to Build Another

DETROIT, Sept. 28. — Walter D. Shafer reports that he will continue on plans for a new 1,500-seat theatre here, despite the fact that an application for Federal approval on materials is still pending. Shafer, owner of the Shafer Wayne here and the Garden, Garden City, contends that the new theatre is essential in "a critical war area." The new house will be erected at a cost of $100,000 with an additional $50,000 for equipment.

Berne to Build Drive-In

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 28. — Headed by J. M. Berne of Cleveland, a partner of the late Mort H. Singer in the Signer circuit, a group of theatre men has acquired property here on which they will erect a Drive-In theatre, to begin as soon as materials are available. The group, which operates a Drive-In in Louisville, is also negotiating for location in this territory.

Rep. Signs Butterfield

Republic has closed with Butterfield's 117 theatres in the Michigan territory for its 1944-45 program. Republic president James R. Grainger, Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin, and Detroit branch manager I. H. Pollard represented Republic, while the circuit was represented by E. C. Beatty, president, and J. O. Brooks.

'Impatient','Hayride' Dual for $14,500

PROVIDENCE, Sept. 28.—Business fell off generally in downtown theatres here, presumably because of the reopening of schools. Only "The Merry Monahans," "The Impatient Years" and "Louisiana Hayride" at the Strand earned a hold-over.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 29:

"The Merry Monahans" (Univ.)
"Falcon in Mexico" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (35c-44c-55c) 8 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,800).
"The Impatient Years" (Col.)
"Louisiana Hayride" (Col.)
STRAND—(2,200) (44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $10,500).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M re-issue)
"Shadows in the Night" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $17,700).
"Greenwich Village" (20th-Fox)
"The Last Ride" (WB)
MAJESTIC — (2,250) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $12,100).
"Janie" (WB)
"Boogie-Woogie Dream" (Hollywood Prod.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week on a moveover after two weeks at the Majestic. Gross: $2,900. (Average: $4,000).
"Seven Doors to Death" (PRC)
FAY'S — (1,800) (35c-44c-55c) 7 days. On stage: Eight Dancing Beauties, Billy Van, Helen Terry, Dot Deering, Ulaine Malloy, Birdland. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $6,500).
"The Contender" (PRC)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (44c-60c) 3 days. On stage: Marion Hutton, Henny Youngman, Bob Strong's Orchestra. Gross: $7.500. (Average: $6,900).

Pittsburghers Pay $23,500 for 'Lace'

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 28.—The Stanley led off this week on an anticipated gross of $23,500 with "Arsenic and Old Lace." Lena Horne held the spotlight on the stage.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 25-29:

"In Society" (Univ.)
FULTON — (1,700) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500).
"Wilson" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS—(2,200) (76c matinee, $1.10 evening) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Waterloo Bridge" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $21,700).
"Up in Arms" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RITZ — (1,100) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Moveover from Warner. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000).
"Her Primitive Man" (Univ.)
"Ladies of Washington" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR — (1,750) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,400).
"Arsenic and Old Lace" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,800) (40c-55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. Average: ú22,000).
"Dragon Seed" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,350).

'Conspirators' Premiere

Warners' "The Conspirators," starring Hedy Lamarr and Paul Henreid, will have its world premiere Oct. 11 in a pe-release day-and-day engagement at the Warner and Merritt Theatres in Bridgeport, Conn. The film will also open simultaneously at the Strand, Hartford and the Capitol, Springfield, Mass. The Broadway premiere will be at the Strand, Oct. 20, following "Arsenic and Old Lace."

McDonnell to Oklahoma

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Grover McDonnell, formerly Republic salesman in Dallas, was named Monogram Oklahoma manager, effective Monday.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Sept. 28

'MADMAN' MUNTZ, the Hollywood-Glendale used car dealer who ran a series of comic spot announcements on local radio broadcasts into a national reputation (see current *Coronet*), engaged Pessis & Ettinger, publicists, to say for him that he's planning construction of "a Hollywood Press Building, first of its kind in the nation."

It is to be located on Sunset Strip, according to P. & E., and will house trade publications, fan magazines, publicity and public relations agencies and other related press activities, and the idea was brought to his attention (still quoting the release) by members of the motion picture and publishing fields who urged centralization of the widely scattered news agencies to expedite news presentation.

Now it's no secret in Hollywood that the place needs such a building as it needs a watering trough at Hollywood and Vine for tired horses. Yet nobody's inclined to laugh off the Muntz proposal. Hero of probably the outstandingest publicity campaign put over in these parts since Mack Sennett got away with "Mickey," Muntz might go through with it.

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Cary Grant has been signed by Warners to portray Cole Porter in "Night and Day," the story of the composer's life, which Michael Curtiz will direct for producer Arthur Schwartz. . . . 'Cartune' producer Walter Lantz is going to revive the Oswald Rabbit character, shelved three years ago, in response to some 3,000 letters from fans and exhibitors. . . . Vanguard has signed Emil Kuri, set decorator of "Spellbound," to a two-year contract.

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Laraine Day will be starred by RKO Radio in "Those Endearing Young Charms," from Edward Chodorov's stage play, which Bert Granet will produce. RKO obtained the work in script form from Samuel Goldwyn. . . . Hal B. Wallis has engaged George Brent to play the male lead opposite Joan Fontaine in "The Affairs of Susan," scheduled as his second production for Paramount. . . . June Preisser and Arnold Stang are to play leads in "Let's Go Steady," Columbia musical, which Del Lord will direct.

•

M-G-M has struck a new high with 14 of its 33 stars at work at the studio at one time. They include Greer Garson, Lionel Barrymore, Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly, Kathryn Grayson, Judy Garland, Robert Walker, Lana Turner, Laraine Day, Susan Peters, Van Johnson, Esther Williams and Robert Donat, the latter at work in the London plant. Slated to start next month are Margaret O'Brien, Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Ginger Rogers, Walter Pidgeon, Fred Astaire and Lucille Ball.

•

Jackie Moran, boy star of "Song of the Open Road," has been signed by Columbia for "Let's Go Steady." . . . Vanguard has assigned to Dore Schary the production of "So Little Time," from J. P. Marquand's novel of the same name, with a December date set for start of shooting. . . . John Litel has been given the role of Robert E. Lee in Walter Wanger's "Salome—Where She Danced," for Universal.



ALONG BROADWAY AT NIGHT ALL PLACES TO SPEND MON

THE BIG CITY HAS BIGGEST WAR BOOM

THE LIFE OF THE PARTY!

Did you see this exciting full page of the Astor Theatre front in the wonderful Special Issue of LIFE Magazine (*Sept. 25th*)? This issue is a "Report to the Nation" and naturally when the Editors covered the Broadway Boom, they selected the Goldmine Hit of them all—M-G-M's "KISMET." Breaking every Astor record and a sensation everywhere!

THAT

Something Extra IN RKO PATHE NEWS —TODAY AS ALWAYS

READ what one prominent reviewer says about Pathe's version of "THE LIBERATION OF PARIS"...

"The film packs a feature-sized punch. The RKO Pathe version will be the most popular, being a shade better edited, better scored and having a more revealing commentary."

(Otis L. Guernsey in N. Y. Herald-Tribune)

RKO PATHÉ NEWS

TWICE WEEKLY—104 A YEAR

TODAY news-on-the-screen rivals the feature as a marquee attraction. And the better the newsreel, the better your take! Showmen playing RKO Pathe News—America's No. 1 Newsreel for 35 years—*know* they are getting the tops . . . in news treatment and audience value!

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